

THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACY.

OCTOBER, 1872.

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN
PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Central Rink, located on Euclid avenue, near Monument Square, in the City of Cleveland, had been selected by the Local Secretary, Mr. Henry C. Gaylord, to hold the meeting. The hall is very large, and is surrounded on three sides by a spacious gallery, affording ample room and good light for the exhibition. A large room, situated directly over the entrance, had been arranged for the meeting, and conveniently seated about 200 persons. Six sessions were held, the first on the afternoon of Tuesday, September 3d, and the last one on the forenoon of the following Friday.

First Session—Tuesday Afternoon.

The meeting was called to order, at 3½ o'clock, by the President, Professor Enno Sander, of St. Louis, Professor John M. Maisch acting as Secretary. The roll being called, 56 members were found to be present. A Committee on Credentials was appointed, consisting of Prof. J. Faris Moore, of Baltimore, Mr. Robert J. Brown, of Leavenworth, and Mr. W. J. M. Gordon, of Cincinnati.

The Committee subsequently reported having examined the credentials of the following associations, viz., the Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, Cincinnati, Louisville, Chicago, Kansas, Ontario and Tennessee Colleges of Pharmacy; the New Jersey, Newark, Columbia, Allegheny County and Saginaw Valley Pharmaceutical Associations, and the Alumni Associations of the Massachusetts, New York and Philadelphia Colleges of Pharmacy. Delegations were also reported

to be present from the St. Louis and the Philadelphia Colleges of Pharmacy, and from the Alumni of the Maryland College, but their credentials were not handed in until the next morning, when also the credentials of a delegation from the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association were received. Two of the associations were represented by one delegate each, and one by two delegates, while all the others had appointed a full delegation of five, nearly all the delegates being present.

The report of the Committee was received and the Committee continued.

All the members of the Executive Committee except the Permanent Secretary being absent, Dr. S. S. Garrigues, of East Saginaw, Mich., acted in the place of the Committee, and reported the names of 46 applicants for membership. It was observed that several applicants had been vouched for by only one member; these cases were recommitted to the acting Executive Committee, and, additional vouchers having been obtained, the candidates were duly balloted for and reported unanimously elected, Messrs. Jos. L. Lemberger, of Lebanon, Pa., and Alb. B. Clark, jr., of Galesburg, Ill., having acted as tellers.

The roll as amended by the delegations, and the members elected was again called, when 80 members were found to be present.

The following Committee reports were received at the first session: Executive Committee, with the report of the Permanent Secretary; Committee on the Drug Market, and Committee on Pharmaceutical Legislation. Professor Moore reported verbally for the Committee on the Liquor Dealers' License of Apothecaries, and stated that the efforts of the Committee had been unsuccessful, Congress at its last (short) session not having had the time of considering the propriety of removing this onerous tax from pharmacists.

The Secretary read the report of the Executive Committee and the Permanent Secretary. The Executive Committee reported the decease of the following five members during the past year, viz.: Robert J. Taylor, of Newport, R. I.; William J. Watson, of Williamsburg, N. Y.; James E. Bright, of Worcester, Mass.; John C. Everson, of Philadelphia, and Robert J. Davies, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The report of the Secretary suggests to procure some chemical and technological journals, in addition to those received at present, for the use of the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy in compiling

their annual report; also that the printed Proceedings be more copiously illustrated than heretofore by wood-cuts and engravings. The incidental expenses of the Secretary were considerably larger than during the previous year, the two items of freight and postage alone, causing an increase of expenses amounting to \$141.71, owing to the large size of the last volume. The Secretary then refers to a charge brought against him by the "Pharmaceutische Zeitung," of May 11, last, of altering, in the translation, the address of the North German Apothecaries' Union, and says, in regard to this matter:

The criticized passage refers to the plea against removing the restrictions from the practice of pharmacy in Germany, which has been extensively advocated there for some years past, and touches a question in which American pharmacists have no interest, and for which they feel no sympathy. For these reasons an *intentional* omission or alteration is out of the question; moreover, none of the documents presented to this Association in a foreign language have ever been translated *verbally*, whether they were afterwards ordered to be published or not. The sentence to which objection was taken is as follows,* the verbal translation being italicized: "Our *only* hope rests in the recognition of this, and we trust that the (unfavorable) *sad* experience of those countries in which the unrestricted practice of pharmacy exists may prevent our governments from the great error of its introduction."

The Secretary likewise communicated to the Association the preamble and resolution passed by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia in regard to the keeping and dispensing of poisonous remedies.†

The appointment of the Nominating Committee being in order, the delegations of the above associations appointed the following gentlemen, one from each delegation: Messrs. Joel S. Orne, Paul Balluff, J. Faris Moore, John F. Judge, C. Lewis Diehl, Thomas N. Jamieson, Robert J. Brown, Henry J. Rose, Benjamin Lillard, Robert W. Gardener, Robert W. Vanderwoort, Daniel P. Hickling, William H. Brill, Leander Simoneau, Charles A. Tufts, Thomas Starr, Charles L. Eberle. The Association requested the delegations from the Philadelphia and the St. Louis Colleges of Pharmacy to appoint one member each, when Messrs. Joseph P. Remington and Enno Sander were named. From the Association at large the following members were appointed by the President to serve on the same Committee: Messrs. George W. Sloane, Indianapolis; Henry J. Menninger, Ral-

* See Proceedings of the Amer. Pharmac. Assoc., 1871, p. 78.

† See Amer. Journal of Pharmacy, 1872.

eigh, N. C.; Alfred S. Lane, Rochester, N. Y.; Louis J. Merkel, Cleveland, and Charles A. Heinitch, Lancaster, Pa.

Mr. James T. Shinn, from the Business Committee, reported on the amendment to the by-laws proposed at the last session of the nineteenth meeting, relating to the appointment of a Council to prepare all business for the Association. The report was made the special order for the next day, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The President now read his annual address, an able document, reviewing the labors of the Association and its committees, and making several important suggestions.

The address was, together with the report of the Permanent Secretary, referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. William Saunders, William S. Thompson and Joel S. Orne, after which the Association adjourned until the next morning, at 9 o'clock.

Second Session—Wednesday Morning.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the first session, the Nominating Committee recommended the election of the following officers for the ensuing year :

President.

ALBERT E. EBERT, Chicago, Ill.

Vice-Presidents.

SAMUEL S. GARRIGUES, Ph. D., East Saginaw, Mich.

EDWARD P. NICHOLS, M. D., Newark, N. J.

HENRY C. GAYLORD, Cleveland, Ohio.

Executive Committee.

THOMAS S. WIEGAND, *Chairman*, Philadelphia.

GEORGE LEIS, Lawrence, Kansas.

CHARLES L. EBERLE, Philadelphia.

HENRY J. MENNINGER, Raleigh, N. C.

JOHN M. MAISCH, *Permanent Sec'y, ex officio*, Philadelphia.

Committee on Progress of Pharmacy.

LOUIS DOHME, *Chairman*, Baltimore.

JOS. P. REMINGTON, Philadelphia.

EMIL SCHEFFER, Louisville, Ky.

CHARLES B. SMITH, Newark, N. J.,

Local Secretary, ex officio.

Committee on Drug Market.

P. WENDOVER BEDFORD, <i>Chairman</i> ,	.	.	.	New York.
WILLIAM H. BROWN,	.	.	.	Baltimore.
WILLIAM P. KEFFER,	.	.	.	New Orleans.
WILLIAM H. BRILL,	.	.	.	Pittsburg, Pa.
WILLIAM S. MERRELL,	.	.	.	Cincinnati.

Committee on Papers and Queries.

C. LEWIS DIEHL, <i>Chairman</i> ,	.	.	.	Louisville.
HENRY N. RITTENHOUSE,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.
JOHN F. HANCOCK,	.	.	.	Baltimore.

Business Committee.

PAUL BALLUFF, <i>Chairman</i> ,	.	.	.	New York.
CHARLES H. DALRYMPLE,	.	.	.	Morristown, N. J.
WM. H. CRAWFORD,	.	.	.	St. Louis.

A ballot being ordered, Messrs. J. F. Hancock and C. L. Eberle acted as tellers, and reported the election of the nominees.

The Committee on Credentials handed in credentials from delegations of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the Alumni Association of the Maryland College of Pharmacy, and the Georgetown College School of Pharmacy. Objections were raised against the reception of the latter delegation, it being contended that the words "Colleges of Pharmacy," in Article vi, Chapter vi, of the By-Laws, referred to pharmaceutical associations bearing this title, and not merely to educational institutions, and that the representation by delegates was accorded to the local associations composed of pharmacists and druggists, and not merely to the faculties of the teaching Colleges of Pharmacy. The subject was, on motion, referred to a Committee composed of one from each recognized delegation present and five members appointed by the President from the Association at large.

The President elect, Mr. Albert E. Ebert, of Chicago, was conducted to the Chair by Professors William Procter, Jr., and J. F. Moore, and a vote of thanks was then passed to the retiring officers.

Fifteen applicants for membership were elected.

Dr. Charles A. Tufts read the Treasurer's report for the past year, which was referred to an Auditing Committee, consisting of Messrs. W. J. M. Gordon, of Cincinnati, T. H. Patterson, of Chicago, and J. S. Robinson, of Memphis. The report accounts for \$4781.06 passing

through the Treasurer's hands during the year, and shows a balance of \$733.41 on hand at the beginning of the meeting. The Proceedings for 1871 were published at an expense of \$5.50 for each member.

The hour of 11 having arrived, the special order of the day was called up, viz., the creation of a council, to be composed of the officers of the Association and of the members of the Executive Committee, the Committee on Papers and Queries, and of the Business Committee, the object being to have all business matters digested and arranged for each session, in order to gain more time for the discussion of scientific subjects. Objections were raised against this proposition, the speakers generally regarding such an innovation as a centralization of too much power in the hands of a few members, who might then virtually control the business of the Association. A motion to indefinitely postpone the proposed amendment was carried without a dissenting vote.

Professor Procter read the report of the Committee on Papers and Queries, proposing a number of subjects for investigation during the coming year. The report was accepted.

An invitation from the Committee on entertainment of the Cleveland pharmacists and druggists was received and accepted with thanks, to participate in an excursion on Lake Erie on Thursday afternoon.

The Secretary was directed to telegraph to the Chairman of the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy, Dr. Thos. E. Jenkins, at Louisville, nothing having been heard as yet of the expected report.

The report of the Committee on the Drug Market was read and accepted; also the report of the Auditing Committee, who had found the Treasurer's accounts correct and his books perfect in neatness and accuracy.

The President appointed the following Committee on Specimens: Dr. H. J. Menninger, Raleigh, N. C., Emil Scheffer, Louisville, Ky., C. C. Hohly, Toledo, O., Wm. McIntyre, Philadelphia, and M. L. M. Peixotto, N. Y.

An album containing a large number of photographs of prominent British pharmacists was presented by Professor Procter in behalf of Mr. Henry B. Brady, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, who had attended the St. Louis meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association. The gift was received with the hearty thanks of the Association.

The Secretary laid before the Association meteorological charts and sketches from Brig. General Albert J. Myer, the Chief Signal

Officer at Washington, D. C., which were thankfully accepted, the Executive Committee being directed to reproduce these documents in the forthcoming Proceedings for the general information of the Association.

The Association then adjourned into the exhibition room, and, guided by the Committee on Specimens, examined the various interesting articles on exhibition.

Third Session—Wednesday Afternoon.

The minutes of the second session having been read and approved, the following preamble and resolution, offered by Dr. E. R. Squibb, were unanimously adopted :

Whereas, some twenty of the older members, after having been repeatedly notified, have failed to respond to the action of the Association in regard to relinquishing or declining to relinquish their rights to life membership; and whereas, the subject of life membership cannot be finally disposed of while such members refuse to respond to the notification by the officers; therefore

Resolved, That all members who fail to notify the Treasurer that they decline to relinquish their right to life membership before the first day of May next, are declared hereby to have relinquished the said rights.

The following papers were read in answer to queries propounded last year :

No. 12. On the production of milk sugar in the United States, by Jos. L. Lemberger, of Lebanon, Pa.

No. 13. On avoiding the pectinous principle from senega in the syrup, by R. Rother, of Chicago.

No. 15. On tests for the purity of the volatile oil of *Erigeron Canadense*, by E. J. Weeks, of Jackson, Mich.

No. 19. On hand drug-mills, by Thos. J. Covell, of Jersey City, N. J. The author gives the preference to that manufactured by Messrs. Hance Bros. & White, of Philadelphia.

No. 23. On the best arrangements for the dispensing counter, by John F. Hancock.

No. 28. On the quality of the commercial glacial phosphoric acid, by Prof. A. B. Prescott, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

No. 31. On commercial creasote, by Prof. Enno Sander, of St. Louis.

Dr. E. R. Squibb read two interesting papers, entitled "Note on Aconite Root," and "Note on Rhubarb," exhibiting several chests of the latter in illustration.

Invitations were extended to the faculty of the Cleveland Medical College and of the Medical Department of the University of Wooster to take seats upon the floor, after which the Association adjourned until the next morning, at 9 o'clock.

Fourth Session—Thursday Morning.

The reading and approval of the minutes was followed by the reading of a telegram from Dr. T. E. Jenkins, stating that the report of the Progress of Pharmacy would be ready for the Publishing Committee. The Association granted time until October 1st to finish the report, and, if it cannot be finished by that time, requested the chairman to hand it in at the next annual meeting as a volunteer paper.

A committee to consider and report on the time and place of holding the twenty-first annual meeting was appointed, as follows: Robert J. Brown, of Kansas; Charles L. Eberle, of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Henry J. Menninger, of North Carolina.

The delegation from the Georgetown College School of Pharmacy requested, through the committee appointed at the second session, to be permitted to withdraw the credentials, and to omit the discussion on this subject from the printed Proceedings. The request was granted by a vote of 58 ayes against 19 nays; and the subject of representation at the annual meetings was then recommitted to the same committee with the instruction to bring in, on the following morning, an amendment to the by-laws clearly defining the conditions.

Credentials were received from the delegation of the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association, and ten applicants for membership were duly elected.

Mr. Edward L. Milhau, the chairman of the Committee on Unofficial Formulas, reported by telegraph that the experiments and the written report were not completed. The committee was continued, and all reports of special committees not handed in before the final adjournment were referred to the next annual meeting. The Committees on Pharmaceutical Legislation, and on Arrangements for the Meeting of 1876, were likewise continued, and a Committee on Adulterations and Sophistications was appointed as follows: Charles Rice, New York, chairman; Thomas N. Jamieson, Chicago, and Emil Schaffer, Louisville.

Mr. Paul Balluff read a very interesting essay on the legislation regulating the practice of pharmacy in this country, and reviewing briefly the laws of some European countries.

Mr. William Saunders reported, on behalf of the Committee on the President's Address and the Secretary's Report, approving in the main the suggestions contained in both documents, and concluding as follows :

We have duly considered the resolutions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia—appended to the Secretary's report—and, while we fully approve of the idea of surrounding poisonous medicines with every possible safeguard, yet, in consequence of the great difference of opinion among pharmacists as to the advisability of using special bottles for dangerous compounds, or the practicability of giving the proper antidotes for poisons within the compass of a small label, your Committee do not recommend the Association to take any action on these resolutions at present.

The report was, on motion, accepted, and the suggestions contained therein adopted as such.

It was announced that, owing to threatening storms, the lake excursion contemplated for this afternoon was necessarily postponed until the following afternoon. This invitation for the next day was received with the hearty thanks of the Association, but, on account of the business arrangements of many members, was respectfully declined. The invitation for Thursday afternoon was, however, soon after renewed, in consequence of which the Association afterwards adjourned until Friday morning.

Mr. Ottmar Eberbach read a paper in answer to Query 38, on the quality of a number of elixirs found in the market.

Mr. C. L. Eberle moved an amendment to the Constitution, looking towards the creation of a sinking fund, which, under the rules, lies over until the next annual meeting.

Special Session—Thursday Afternoon.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the lake excursion could not take place, and, at the request of 21 members, President Ebert called a special session for scientific business, to convene at 3 o'clock P.M. The meeting was well attended, and was exclusively devoted to the reading of papers and to discussion on scientific subjects.

The following answers to queries were read :

No. 45. On formulas for unofficinal preparations, and particularly for elixirs, by Rob. J. Brown.

No. 51. On sneezeweed, by John M. Maisch.

No. 54. On vegetable wax, by George C. Close.

No. 55. On the educational requirements of apprentices, by Professor Edward Parrish.

No. 33. On commercial seidlitz powders, by Chas. W. Grassly.

No. 56. On Chinese blistering flies, by John M. Maisch.

Volunteer papers on the following subjects were read :

On Tennessee Opium, by Benjamin Lillard.

On a New Form of Percolator, by Dr. E. R. Squibb.

In connection with several of these papers, the subjects treated of were exhibited, and Dr. Squibb showed the glass percolator in actual operation.

Mr. R. P. Smith, of the firm of Whitall Tatem & Co., of Philadelphia, by invitation, addressed the meeting on the subject of glass and glassware.

After the renewal of the invitation to the lake excursion for Friday afternoon, the special session was adjourned.

Fifth Regular Session—Friday forenoon.

The minutes of the previous sessions having been read and approved, the report of the Committee on the stamp-tax was read, recommending to petition Congress for a modification of the law on this subject. The report was accepted, adopted and referred to a Committee of three for action. The Committee consists of Messrs. Chas. H. Dalrymple, of Morristown, N. J., J. Faris Moore, of Baltimore, and William Hegeman, of New York.

The Committee on Photographic Album made a verbal report, and exhibited an album containing the photographs of many members. The Committee was continued to collect photographs, and the album placed in charge of the Secretary, to be exhibited at each annual meeting.

The Treasurer was authorized to honor the draft of Mr. H. C. Gaylord, the local Secretary, for expenses incurred in making provisions for this meeting.

The Secretary was directed to send copies of the forthcoming new Pharmacopœia of the United States to those foreign pharmaceutical societies with whom the American Pharmaceutical Association is in correspondence.

A Committee, consisting of Professor William Procter, Jr., Dr. E. R. Squibb and Mr. E. H. Sargent, was appointed to select a reporter

on the Progress of Pharmacy, to be appointed at the next annual meeting, and to suggest such changes in the By-Laws as may be necessary.

An essay, by C. F. Fredigke, on the manufacture of chemicals by the apothecary, was read, in answer to query 16; also the following volunteer papers:

"Note on Aloes" and "On Citrate of Bismuth and Ammonia," by Dr. E. R. Squibb.

On Syrup of Ferrous Nitrate, by Robert W. Gardener.

On Elixir of Mandrake, by G. H. Schæffer.

On Extract of Cannabis indica, William Saunders.

On an herb press, by Joseph Harrop.

The Committee appointed to select a place for holding the next annual meeting, reported in favor of Louisville, Ky. Amendments were made, substituting Nashville, Tenn., and Richmond, Va. The latter amendment was adopted by a vote of 40 ayes against 33 nays, and the resolution as amended was then carried. The Executive Committee was authorized to make all the necessary arrangements in case the local Secretary to be elected should be unable to act. The third Tuesday in September, 1873, was fixed for the time of the next meeting, and Mr. Thos. H. Hazard was then elected local Secretary.

The queries not otherwise disposed of were, on motion, dropped, and the members generally recommended to investigate the subjects and report voluntarily thereon at the next meeting.

The Committee on the Georgetown College Delegation proposed to amend Article vi, Chapter 6, of the By-Laws, by making it read: "All local organizations of pharmacists shall be entitled," &c. Action was deferred until the first session of the next meeting.

The same disposition was made of the proposal to appoint the Committee on specimens at the first session of the annual meetings.

Resolutions of thanks were passed to the Cleveland pharmacists and druggists, for kindness shown to the members at this meeting; to Mr. James McIntosh, Signal Officer at Cleveland, for furnishing daily reports, statistics, charts, &c., and to the press of Cleveland, for the attention shown this meeting.

The report of the Committee on Specimens was read and referred.

Professor Robert Bentley, of London, England, and Stanislas Martin, of Paris, France, were elected honorary members.

A Committee of five (Messrs. John F. Hancock, Baltimore; James

G. Steele, San Francisco; Hampden Osborne, Columbus, Miss.; Robert J. Brown, Leavenworth, and Ottmar Eberbach, Ann Arbor, Mich.) was appointed to take into consideration the subject of elixirs and similar unofficinal preparations, in all its bearings upon pharmacy, and, if deemed proper, to report suitable formulas for the guidance of the members of this Association.

After the election of several new members, the Association adjourned, to meet again in the City of Richmond, Va., on the third Tuesday of September, 1873, at 3 o'clock P. M.

THE THIRD CONVENTION OF THE TEACHING COLLEGES OF PHARMACY OF THE UNITED STATES.

At the eighteenth annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, held in Baltimore 1870, a convention of pharmaceutical societies met pursuant to a call of the Maryland College, and discussed several important questions relating to pharmaceutical apprenticeship and education. These transactions were reported in the "American Journal of Pharmacy," 1870, pages 500—504. In order to confine the deliberations of this body strictly to educational subjects and to matters relating to the welfare of the colleges of pharmacy; also to avoid here the discussion of subjects of immediate interest to the profession at large, which properly belong to the objects of the national Association, it was deemed best to limit these conventions to the representatives of the teaching colleges, and, at St. Louis, in September, 1871, a constitution was adopted providing for an annual meeting to take place at the time and place of the annual meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Mr. E. H. Sargent was elected President, and Professor J. Faris Moore, Secretary. A committee, consisting of Professors Moore and Maisch, was appointed to suggest subjects for discussion at the third convention, and to give timely notice of the same to the different teaching colleges. The questions agreed upon by this committee were published on pages 329 and 330 of the July number of this Journal.

The third convention met at the Kennard House, in the City of Cleveland, on the evening of September 5th, when Dr. Charles A. Tufts was elected President and Professor J. M. Maisch, Secretary. The Colleges of Pharmacy of Massachusetts, New York, Philadelphia, Maryland, Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago, and the Columbia College School of Pharmacy, were represented.

The retiring President, Mr. E. H. Sargent, had sent an address, which was read, and listened to with marked attention, discussing principally the necessity of a certain standard of education prior to admission to the lectures of the colleges, the propriety of dividing the lectures into a junior and a senior course, and the advisability of granting one or more higher degrees after that of Graduate in Pharmacy has been attained. The address was referred to the Committee, consisting of Professors Moore and Maisch, subsequently appointed for the purpose of selecting subjects for the consideration of the fourth convention.

The questions submitted by the Committee for the present year were then taken up seriatim, discussed, and disposed of by the following resolutions, which were passed unanimously :

Resolved, That this Convention regards analytical chemistry as essential for a thorough pharmaceutical education.

Resolved, That this Convention considers lectures on and practical instruction in qualitative analysis as very desirable for second course students.

Resolved, That the Colleges of Pharmacy be requested to communicate the questions propounded for written answers in the annual examinations to all other colleges of pharmacy in the United States.

Resolved, That this Convention considers the establishment of the degree of Master in Pharmacy as desirable, to be conferred upon graduates in pharmacy of not less than three years' professional service, who shall have passed another more stringent examination than "graduates" receive.

Resolved, That the degree of Doctor in Pharmacy should be a purely honorary one, to be conferred only upon pharmacists who have distinguished themselves in the advancement of the science of pharmacy.

Resolved, That the colleges of pharmacy are requested to annually report through their delegates to this Convention the names of those upon whom their honorary degree has been bestowed.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet next year simultaneously with the American Pharmaceutical Association.

PHARMACEUTICAL NOTES.

By J. DONDE.

Soluble Sulphate of Quinia.—Soubeiran and others, speaking about this preparation, say that the officinal sulphate must be dissolved in water acidulated with sulphuric acid, the solution evaporated, &c. ; but, as the quantity of acid is not given, the success is not certain—

an excess of acid prevents the crystallization of the salt, and a yellow, somewhat greenish and deliquescent mass is obtained. After having failed twice, I succeeded well with the following exact proportions:

Quinia sulphate, basic,	150 grm.
Rain water,	2 litres.
Sulphuric acid, 66°,	22 grm.

The acid is mixed with the water in a porcelain capsule, the sulphate is then added, and the mixture occasionally agitated until dissolution has taken place, which required about an hour at a temperature of 29° C. After filtering, the evaporation is continued till the liquor is reduced to 600 grm.; 24 hours afterwards the crystals are taken out, and the mother liquor remaining is evaporated a second time in order to obtain more crystals. The mother liquor finally remaining is used for precipitating the quinia.

An Elixir of Citro-Lactate of Iron.—This liquor, which was imported in this city years ago as a special preparation of Dr. Thermes, of Paris, was prepared by me after the following formula:

Liquor citrate of iron and ammonia,	27 grm.
Lactate of iron,	4 grm.
Rain water,	1400 grm.
White sugar,	300 grm.
Aromatic spirit of Garus,	200 grm.

The lactate is dissolved in the water, the other substances are added, and when the sugar is dissolved the liquid is filtered.

Lemon Syrup.—

Simple syrup,	50 centilitres.
Lemon juice purified,	45 grm.

The syrup is concentrated to 33° by boiling, and when it is cool the lemon juice, clarified by repose, is added to it. One ounce and a half of this syrup and eight ounces of water will make a very agreeable lemonade.

Merida, Yucatan, August 28, 1872.

THE USE OF BULLOCK'S BLOOD IN MEDICINE.

By WILLIAM C. BAKES.

In the last number of the Journal, on page 410, appeared an extract from the *Pharm. Journ. and Trans.*, July 27, 1872, from a

correspondent of *The Med. Times and Gazette*, under the title of "Bullock's Blood—A New Remedy," in which the use of blood is referred to as a new remedial agent for anæmia, and mentioning that cases of phthisis pulmonalis have been as much benefitted by it as they would have been by cod liver oil. The writer also states that a French pharmacien has prepared an extract of blood, which is administered in the form of pills, each of which, weighing about three grains, is said to be equivalent to half an ounce of blood. My purpose in calling attention to this article is to state that, though the use of powdered blood may be a novelty in Europe, it is not a new thing in this country. In 1852, at the suggestion of the late Professor Samuel Jackson, M. D., Mr. Elias Durand, an eminent pharmacist of this city, carefully evaporated fresh bullock's blood to the consistence of an extract, which was reduced to powder, and prescribed by Dr. Jackson under the title of pulv. sanguinis. The following is a copy of one of his prescriptions :

R. Pulv. sanguinis, ʒi.
" aromât.,
" sacchari, aa, ʒss.
M. et divide in chart. No. xij.

Dr. Jackson prescribed this preparation in a large number of cases with satisfactory results, and I think I am correct in stating that the use of this remedy suggested to him the compound mixture of phosphates, afterwards considerably modified, and now popularly known under the name of chemical food.

The use of blood, both pure and in combination with wine and other adjuvants, has frequently been suggested, and experience may yet prove its adaptation as a nutritive tonic and useful in anæmic conditions of the system.

ON THE PREPARATION OF THE BROMIDES OF QUINIA, MORPHIA, STRYCHNIA AND CALCIUM.

By GEORGE MACDONALD.

The bromides of the alkaloids may be readily prepared in small quantities by precipitating a solution of their neutral sulphates with bromide of barium.

As bromide of barium is a salt not met with in commerce, the operator will have to make it for himself, by saturating a solution of hy-

drobromic acid with freshly precipitated carbonate of baryta. The following is a good method:

Put 1 oz. by weight of bromine and 8 fluidounces of water into a pint jar. Attach a sulphuretted hydrogen apparatus, being careful to so place the end of the delivery tube that it will touch the surface of the bromine, and pass a stream of sulphuretted hydrogen slowly through until the bromine is entirely converted into hydrobromic acid. Filter the hydrobromic acid solution into a capsule, and warm gently until it has lost all sulphurous odor.

To make the carbonate of baryta, to a boiling solution of 2 oz. of chloride of barium in a pint of water, add solution of carbonate of ammonia (to which a little ammonia has been added) in excess, wash the precipitate three or four times by decantation, and afterwards transfer it to a filter, and continue the washing until the filtrate ceases to produce any turbidity on the addition of a solution of nitrate of silver, to which a few drops of nitric acid have been added. Then remove the precipitate from the filter, and mix it with sufficient water to bring it to the consistence of thick milk.

To make the bromide of barium, add to the hydrobromic acid solution small portions at a time of the mixture of carbonate of baryta and water, until rather more than three-fourths of the mixture has been added. When this quantity has been added, apply a gentle heat and shake vigorously. Then filter a small portion and test with litmus paper. If it shows an acid reaction, more carbonate of baryta must be added until the reaction is neutral. When a sufficient quantity of carbonate of baryta has been added, filter and evaporate to 4 fluidounces. It is not necessary to proceed to crystallization, as the salt is very soluble, and therefore difficult to crystallize in small quantities, and a solution of it is really what is wanted after all.

Bromide of Quinia.—To make this salt, dissolve 1 oz. of medicinal sulphate of quinia in 32 fluidounces of boiling water, and add solution of bromide of barium until a precipitate ceases to be produced. (A little less than 5 fluidrachms of the solution of bromide of barium made by the formula given above, will be about the proper quantity.) Filter a small quantity of the solution, acidulate it slightly with nitric acid, and test for baryta with a few drops of diluted sulphuric acid. If a whitish turbidity is produced, it is an indication that too much bromide of barium has been added, and enough sulphate of quinia must be added to entirely decompose it. If, on the other hand, the

presence of baryta in the solution was not indicated, slightly acidulate another portion of the filtrate with nitric acid, and add a drop or two of solution of bromide of barium. If this produces a whitish turbidity, it shows that there has not been enough bromide of barium added, and more must be *very carefully* added, until the sulphate of quinia is all or *nearly* all decomposed. It is better, of course, to have a little undecomposed sulphate of quinia in the solution than *any* bromide of barium.

When the precipitation of sulphate of baryta is completed, filter the solution, while still warm, into a capsule, and evaporate at a gentle temperature, until crystallization begins to set in. Then remove from the fire and set aside to crystallize. The bromide of quinia will be found to be aggregated in *globular clusters* of brilliant silky needles, and the singularly beautiful appearance of the crystallization is alone almost ample compensation to any one for the little trouble he may go to in making it.

Drain the crystals well, remove them from the capsule, and place between sheets of bibulous paper and set aside to dry. The crystals are soluble in about 40 parts of cold water, and appear to be anhydrous. At least I have had a small quantity exposed to the air for a couple of weeks, and they do not show the slightest appearance of efflorescence. I have not made accurate weighings, and therefore cannot speak positively.

Bromides of Morphia and Strychnia.—These salts may be prepared after the same method as bromide of quinia, with slight modifications, which will readily suggest themselves to the mind of the operator. They both crystallize well, and are quite as soluble as the corresponding sulphates.

Bromide of Calcium.—The process of Mr. James R. Mercein, in the March number of the *Journal*, is probably as good a one as could be devised. The majority of apothecaries, however, will find the following to be a more ready and convenient way of making it:

Dissolve 4 oz. of bromide of ammonium in a pint of water. Put in a flask and bring to the boiling point. Keep boiling, and add milk of lime (made from *pure* calcined lime), in small quantities, until ammoniacal vapors cease to be evolved. The operator can easily tell when this point has been reached, by the sense of smell. Filter the solution, evaporate to a syrup consistency, remove from the fire, and stir until cold. This salt is quite deliquescent, and requires to be

kept in well-stoppered bottles. In preparing this salt, care must be taken as to the quality of lime used, as some limestones contain a large per centage of carbonate of magnesia, and the salt obtained by using a lime burnt from limestone of that quality, would necessarily contain a correspondingly large per centage of bromide of magnesium.

Cairo, Ill., Sept. 1872.

NOTE.—In decomposing bromide of ammonium by caustic lime, care must be taken to avoid an excess of the latter, since a basic bromide (oxybromide) of calcium is very readily formed, having a strong alkaline reaction:

The term *bromide of quinia* has of late been frequently used in medical journals, but is incorrect. The salt being a combination of *hydrobromic acid* with the alkaloid *quinia*, should be called *hydrobromate of quinia*. Its composition is analogous to that of *hydrochlorate (muriate)* of morphia, and its proper name is formed correctly only in perfect analogy with that of the latter.

—ED. AM. JOUR. PHARM.

GLEANINGS FROM THE EUROPEAN JOURNALS.

BY THE EDITOR.

Arsenic in coal soot has been observed by H. Reinsch, who found it to contain also iron, manganese and copper. 272 grm. soot strongly compressed, evolved on incineration, first, the odor of bitter almonds, then of arsenic, afterwards of sulphurous acid, and left 166 grm. of red brown ashes, in which traces of arsenic were still observed.—*N. Jahrb. f. Pharm.* 1872, July, 18–20.

The active principle of the aqueous distillate of cantharides. E. Rennard proved, from the blistering effects, the presence of cantharidin in a cat poisoned with the distillate obtained from cantharides, and proved its presence also in the distillate in the same manner. The author altered Bluhm and Dragendorff's method for preparing cantharidin somewhat; the mixture of powdered cantharides, magnesia and water is exsiccated, the residue saturated with chloroform, supersaturated with sulphuric acid and exhausted with ether. He obtained from four samples 0.38, 0.431, 0.439, and 0.57 per cent. of cantharides.

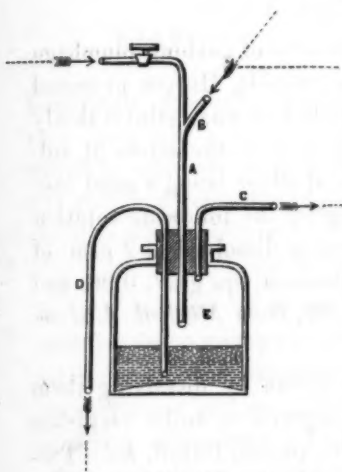
Boiling water dissolves between 0.290 and 0.297, cold water, 0.2, boiling alcohol, 2.08 to 2.168, cold alcohol, 0.127, boiling benzol, 3.38, cold benzol, 0.51, boiling muriatic acid of 1.17 sp. gr., 0.3, and the cold acid, 0.137 per cent. cantharidin.

Cantharidin volatilizes with the vapors of chloroform at 60°C . Distilled with water, the first portions contain the largest proportion of cantharidin. The aqueous distillate of cantharides contains besides cantharidin an animal oil of low boiling point, which decreases with the age of the insects.—*Ibid.* 32-34.

Preservation of pencil and India ink drawings.—L. Erckmann pours upon the paper placed upon a glass plate or smooth board, sufficient collodion containing 2 per cent. of stearin. When dry the paper may be washed off with water, without affecting the drawing.—*Ibid.* 52.

The removal of ink spots from colored fabrics is best effected by a concentrated solution of pyrophosphate of sodium, which dissolves the ink slowly without affecting the color.—*Ibid.* from *Polyt. Notizbl.*

A blowpipe worked by water is described in *Zeitschr. f. anal.*



Chem., the construction of which is readily seen in the accompanying cut. The pipe A is connected with a hydrant or reservoir containing water, the flow of which is regulated by the stopcock. Running into the bottle E of the capacity of about a litre, air is drawn through the short side branch B; the water and air separate again in the bottle, the air escaping under pressure through C, to which, by means of India rubber tubing, a blowpipe is attached. The surplus water is carried off by the syphon D, and its flow is regulated so

as to retain the water in the bottle at a uniform height. The pressure may be readily increased by lengthening the pipe A.

The conversion of pyrophosphates into phosphates may, according to Prinvaalt, be effected by acids. If sulphuric is used, the cause of the transformation is the production of an alkaline phosphosulphate; under the influence of boric acid, a phosphoborate is formed.—*Journ. de Pharm. d'Anvers*, 1872, July, 318.

Production of cymen from oil of turpentine.—Barrier treats, at

50°C., 1 equivalent of hydrated oil of turpentine, $C_{20}H_{16}HO$ with 2 equivalents of bromine, when a thick liquid of the consistence of concentrated glycerin is obtained, containing two bromated compounds, as yet little known. On distilling, a large quantity of hydrobromic acid is disengaged; the distilled liquid is boiled for two hours over fragments of potassa and then subjected to fractional distillation; the liquid distilling between 176° and 179°C. presents all the characteristics of cymen; it is colorless, limpid, of a penetrating lemon odor, a specific gravity of 0.864 and the composition $C_{20}H_{14}$.—*Journ de Pharm. et de Chim.*, 1872, Aug., 148.

Waterproof packing cloth which does not break is made by covering the fabric with the following varnish: 2 lbs. soft (potash) soap is dissolved in water and mixed with an aqueous solution of sulphate of iron. The washed and dried iron soap is dissolved in 3 lbs. of linseed oil, in which one-fifth lb. of caoutchouc has been previously dissolved.—*Chem. Centralb.*, 1872, No. 29, from *Polyt. Notizbl.*

Galvanoplastic.—To avoid the tedious process of rubbing plumbago over the surface of plaster or gutta percha moulds, Heeren proposed some years ago to saturate the plaster moulds with wax, paint it thinly with solution of nitrate of silver, and expose it to the action of sulphuretted hydrogen, the resulting sulphide of silver being a good conductor of electricity. The author now suggests the following solution as an improvement: 1 grm. nitrate of silver is dissolved in 2 grm. of water; to the solution is added $2\frac{1}{2}$ grm. ammonia, sp. grav. 0.96, and then 3 grm. of absolute alcohol.—*Ibid.* No. 32, from *Mittheil. d. Gew. Ver. Hannover.*

Colored collodion, prepared with anilin colors by dissolving them in alcohol and adding to collodium, is far superior to anilin varnishes for coloring glass, mica, paper, photographs, prints, tinfoil, &c. Picric acid and some brown anilin colors cannot be used for this purpose. Anilin varnishes are better adapted for leather, hard linen, feathers and artificial flowers.—*Ibid.* from *Muster, Ztg.* xxi, 157.

The congealing point of bromine has been found by H. Baumhauer to be $-24.5^{\circ}C.$ ($-12.1^{\circ}F.$); the statements in chemical works vary between -7.3 and $-22^{\circ}C.$, and doubtless are due to the presence of water, by which the freezing point of bromine is raised in consequence of the formation of hydrate. Solid bromine is a red brown crystalline mass.—*Zeitschr. f. Chem. New ser.*, vii. 727.

Alkaloids in Isopyrum thalictroides.—F. A. Harsten has discovered two alkaloids in the root of this plant, which he named isopyrina and pseudo-isopyrina. The former is obtained from the aqueous decoction by evaporating it to a thin syrup, precipitating with ammonia, and exhausting the dried precipitate with ether; on evaporating the ether it is left as a bitter, yellowish white powder; its muriate is amorphous and not precipitated from its aqueous solution by chloride of ammonium.

The root, previously exhausted by boiling water, is treated with alcohol, the tincture evaporated, the residue precipitated by ammonia, and the precipitate exhausted with ether. Pseudo-isopyrina is obtained in stellate needles; the solution of its muriate is precipitated by chloride of ammonium. Both alkaloids are decomposed by concentrated acids.—*Chem. Centralbl.*, 1872, No. 33.

A new method of cauterizing is recommended by Dr. B. Strauss, of Munich. He applies with a camel hair pencil some chloride of antimony, and immediately afterwards, with rotary movements, lunar caustic. The liquid rapidly becomes thick from the separation of chloride of silver, and the formation of aqua regia is easily recognized by its odor. The latter compound is the escharotic in this case, and being formed in a soft but thick mass, the operator has it in his power to confine its action to any desired spot or extend it at will. For deeper cauterizations, the process must be repeated several times.—*N. Repert. f. Pharm.* 1872, 330-335.

Estimation of nitrogen in black tea.—A. Vogel obtained from black tea, by maceration for 15 minutes, 23.5 per cent. aqueous extract, containing 2.8 per cent. nitrogen, while the residuary leaves yielded 3.58 per cent.—*Ibid.*, 327-328.

Ammonia in snow.—A. Vogel suggests that the great differences observed in the amount of ammonia contained in snow water, may be due to the temperature and to the manner of collecting the snow. In fresh snow fallen at from -15° to -19°C. , he could not discover even traces of ammonia, while snow fallen at 0°C. , contained a little more NH_3 than snow fallen at -3°C. If the snow has remained on the ground or upon the roof of a house for some time, the amount of NH_3 was increased, but varied for the different localities. Snow free from NH_3 , slowly fusing in an open dish, contains, after 24 hours, appreciable quantities of ammonia.—*Ibid.* 327-330.

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF AMYGDALIN AND THE GENERATION OF HYDROCYANIC ACID.

By S. HENSCHEN, of Upsala.*

The author has instituted a number of experiments, in which he proved the presence of hydrocyanic acid by paper dipped in tincture of guaiacum and solution of sulphate of copper, carefully avoiding ammoniacal vapors. If the paper turned blue, the flask was placed into warm water and a current of air passed through its contents and a refrigerated glass tube, the U bend of which contained a few drops of weak alkali; or the flask was heated, and the vapors were passed first through a Liebig's condenser and afterwards through a glass tube arranged as before. The liquids in the tube were afterwards used for the production of Prussian blue and sulphocyanide of iron, in the well-known manner.

Amygdalin treated with the meal of peas and of rye yielded hydrocyanic acid, but none with finely sifted wheat flour.

Sweet almonds yielded hydrocyanic acid, 10 grm. gave a faint reaction, 30 grm. distinct; they therefore contain a minute quantity of amygdalin.

Amygdalus nana, Lin. The seeds, pericarp, leaves, branches and buds yielded hydrocyanic acid.

Pyrus malus, Lin. 1 to 2 grm. of seeds yielded HCy; none was obtained from leaves, buds or branches.

Pyrus communis, Lin. The seeds yielded HCy, the leaves none.

Pyrus Cydonia, Lin. The isolation of the HCy generated from the seeds is with difficulty effected from the mucilaginous liquid.

Sorbus aucuparia, Lin. The yield of HCy from the seeds was not as large as might have been expected from the large yield from the bark.

Sorbus latifolia, Lin. HCy was obtained from 0.5 grm. seeds, and 17 grm. buds; none from sarcocarp, leaves, branches or bark.

Cratægus Virginica, (?). No HCy from any part of the plant.

Negative results were likewise obtained with the fruit of *Rosa tomentosa*, separated from the hip; with the seeds of the lemon and melon, and with allspice. Indications of HCy were obtained from 20 grm. of vetches (*Vicia*).

* Condensed from Neues Jahrbuch für Pharmacie, 1872, July 1—13—Upsala Läkare förenings—Förhandl. iv, No. 4.

The generation of HCy from vegetables is generally regarded as conclusive evidence of the presence therein of amygdalin; but Dr. Peckolt* has in 15 cases been unable to prepare amygdalin from the root of *Manihot utilisima*, which copiously generates hydrocyanic acid with water. Vetches† yielded, instead of amygdalin, a new crystallizable body of the composition $C_8H_{16}N_4O_6$.

The author observed that from the older branches of the almond hydrocyanic acid could be obtained only after the addition of a little of a bruised sweet almond, which quantity also increased the HCy obtainable from the younger branches and buds. It seems, therefore, as if amygdalin may sometimes occur in plants without the simultaneous presence of emulsin.

The author experimented also on the effect of acids upon the generation of hydrocyanic acid, and observed that tannin (to the amount of 6 per cent.) is without effect, but that the other acids prevent, to a certain extent, the splitting of amygdalin by altering the emulsin, and that mineral acids have a more powerful, and vegetable acids a weaker, effect. Acids do not precipitate the emulsin, and this principle does not lose its activity as a ferment by precipitation with alcohol.

To ascertain the presence of amygdalin, the vegetable material is finely powdered, the acid which may be present is neutralized by chalk, some coarse rye meal or a similar ferment is added, and then some water, after which the fermentation is allowed to proceed, and the presence or absence of hydrocyanic acid established, as described above.

THE MANUFACTURE OF OLIVE OIL IN CALIFORNIA.

For a number of years past, the olive tree has been cultivated with varying success throughout the Southern States, and especially on the islands on the coast of Georgia and Florida, and along the sea board of North Carolina. The quality of the product, however, not being the best, its manufacture has never assumed proportions of any magnitude, nor has it been able to compete with the oil imported from Europe.

A writer in the *Overland Monthly* publishes the information that the culture of the olive tree and the manufacture of oil from its fruit

* Analyses de Materia Medica Brasileira Rio Janeiro, 1868.

† N. Jahrb. f. Pharmacie, 1871, August.

is gradually becoming a leading industry in California. The character of the climate, and the soil of the valley of Santa Barbara and of the foot hills of Santa Inez, for sixty miles along the coast, are adapted to the production of the finest varieties of oil. It is predicted that this portion of the State will eventually be numbered among the most celebrated oil districts of the world.

The olive is propagated almost entirely by cuttings taken from the sprouts and branches of mature trees at the time of pruning. The cuttings are generally from ten to fifteen inches long and from half an inch to three or four inches thick; the thickest are the best. These are placed in a perpendicular position in a bed of good soil, six, eight, or ten inches apart, their tops level with the surface. The earth is pressed closely around them, and their ends are slightly covered to protect them from the drying influence of the sun. Here they remain, throwing out leaves and branches, until April or May, when, with as little disturbance as possible of the roots, they are taken up and, after being trimmed to a single sprout, are set out in the orchard, in rows about twenty-five feet apart each way. The ground between the trees may be cultivated for several years, with little or no detriment to the young trees. When the olives are to be gathered, cloths are spread under the trees and the berries are pulled from their branches by hand and thrown upon the ground, or are beaten off with a long rod. If they are intended for making oil, they are carried to a dry room or loft and scattered upon the floor, or, where this is not convenient, a drying frame is made—consisting of broad shelves one above another, and sliding in and out as the drawers of a bureau—and the berries are spread upon the shelves. By this exposure to a dry, in-door atmosphere, the berries ripen further, their watery juices are evaporated, the oil is released and, when the skins have been broken, flows more readily under pressure. A slight mold may gather upon the berries during the few days that they remain here, but not sufficient to have an injurious effect upon the oil, or it may be prevented entirely by stirring the berries daily.

The process of extracting the oil, as practiced in Santa Barbara, is simple, even to mediæval rudeness. A large, broad stone wheel is held by an arm from a centre post, and, by a horse attached to this arm, is made to traverse a circular bed of solid stone. The berries are thrown upon this stone bed, and are shovelled constantly in the line of the moving wheel until they are considerably mashed, but

not thoroughly or until the stones are broken. This process finished, the pulp is wrapped in coarse cloths or gunny sacks, and placed under a rude, home-made screw or lever press. The oil and juices, as they ooze through the cloth or sacks, flow into a small tank, and, as they increase, are distributed into other vessels, from the surface of which the oil is afterwards skimmed. The oil flowing from this first pressure is what is known as "virgin oil," and commands the highest price from connoisseurs of the table. Without further preparation the oil is now ready for use, except that, in order that any intrusive matter may be separated from the body of the oil and collected at the bottom of the oil cask or jar previous to bottling, it is set away for a time to rest. At the Mission of Santa Barbara, the oil is stored in huge antique pottery jars, that, ranged round the room, remind one of the celebrated scene of the jars in the story of "The Forty Thieves." The "second class oil" is the result of a second and more thorough crushing of the berries, in which even the stones are broken, and of a subsequent subjection of the pulp to the press. The berries are sometimes submitted even to a third process of crushing, and, previous to pressure, are brought to a boiling heat in huge copper kettles. The oil thus obtained is of an inferior quality, and is sold for use as a lubricator and also as an ingredient in the manufacture of castile and fancy toilet soaps, and for other purposes for which it is superior to animal oil. The residue of the berries is then returned to the orchard and scattered under the trees, and, possessing the qualities of a rich and rapid fertilizer, may be said to be yielded to us again revived and luscious in the richer fruitage of succeeding years.

The tree, at five years of age, returns a slight recompense for care; and at seven an orchard should afford an average yield of about twenty gallons of berries to a tree. If there are seventy trees to an acre, there should be obtained from it one thousand four hundred gallons of berries. From twenty gallons of berries may be extracted three gallons of oil; and, if properly manufactured, olive oil will command \$4 to \$5 a gallon at wholesale. Thus, an average yield of olives, derived from an orchard covering one acre of land, will produce about \$800 worth of oil. After deducting the entire cost of production and manufacture, a net profit may be anticipated of at least \$2 per gallon; and thus, one acre, containing seventy trees, yielding an average of twenty gallons of berries, or the equivalent of three gallons of oil, each, will afford a surplus above all expenses of about \$400 a year.

Olive culture is so simple that any one of ordinary intelligence may engage in it. The process of manufacturing the oil is an entirely different business, and belongs separate and apart from the cultivation of the olive. In time, it will not be expected, as now, that each grower shall be manufacturer also. As soon as the supply of olives in a neighborhood is sufficient to warrant the erection of suitable machinery for expressing the oil, every requisite for the purpose will be at hand. The olive grower's labors for the season will end with the deposit of his berries at the oil manufactory; and according to the custom of the olive districts of Europe, one half the oil from his berries will subsequently be returned to him, ready for use and for market.

A large part of the oil sold in this country, and purporting to be olive oil of European manufacture, is the product of adulteration and imitation. It is generally manufactured in this country, and is composed principally of animal oil, though mustard seed oil and other inferior vegetable oils also form materials for its adulteration. Every housewife knows that olive oil purchased from the grocer, when exposed to a cold atmosphere, sometimes thickens and turns white or opaque in the lower part of the bottle; and every one familiar with the nature of olive oil knows that it retains its perfect transparency and uniform oily consistence under any temperature. Animal oil condenses under the influence of cold; but vegetable oil does not.* This difference has been well noted on the shelves of stores where the genuine and the adulterated oil have been ranged for sale, side by side. The genuine oil glows clear beneath the glass in all weathers; the adulterated oil turns flaky with the cold, and the lard goes down with the fall of the winter's thermometer. It is an advantage, also, of the genuine "virgin oil," obtained by home manufacture, that it retains its perfect sweetness longer than any other oil. "Virgin oil," made at the Santa Barbara Mission four years ago, is to-day in possession of the nice delicacy of its first flavor when fresh from the berries.—*Scientific American*, Sept. 28, 1872.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE OLIVE, NEAR VENTIMIGLIA.

By MR. L. WINTER.

(From a letter addressed to Mr. Daniel Hanbury, F.R.S.)

As you wish for a little information on the propagation of the olive

* Pure olive oil separates granular crystals below 10° C. (50° F.), consisting of palmitin.—ED. AMER. J. PH.

in this part of Italy, I have drawn up a few remarks which, though not containing much that is new, may yet serve to complete or to confirm your own observations.

The different kinds of olive-tree we have in this country may be classed under three divisions :

1. *Olivastro*, the Wild Olive, *Olea europæa*, L., grows quite spontaneous, reproducing itself by seeds and suckers ; leaves on young trees small and oblong,—on older trees a little larger and lanceolate ; branches sometimes spiny ; fruit small, oblong, and very bitter. This kind may be regarded as the parent of all the varieties.

2. Varieties reproducing themselves truly by seed, but not so freely as the *olivastro*, and having the fruit less bitter. Under this head may be placed the following :

a. Pignuole.—Branches greyish ; leaves lanceolate, acute ; fruits when ripe almost round, affording an oil of rather strong flavor. There are hundreds of these trees on the Capo Martino, near Mentone, quite wild.

β. Columbaire (Genoese dialect).—Branches brownish ; leaves varying in shape, but mostly obtuse ; fruit large, somewhat pointed.

γ. Spagnuole.—Fruit more elongated than the preceding. These forms, *a. β. γ.*, vary more or less *inter se*.

3. Varieties not reproducing themselves truly by seed, but returning to the *olivastro*. That these varieties degenerate when propagated by seed is the general assertion among the people here ; but regular experiments have never, I think, been carried on, for raising the plant by seed is not advantageous, suckers being of more rapid growth. In this division I would place two varieties, viz. :

a. Nilane.—Fruit large, oblong. This occurs in abundance as far west as Cannes, whence along the whole French coast of the Mediterranean, another olive with still larger fruit is cultivated.

β. Punginaire.—This is another variety which we have in this country. It has long willow-like leaves, and produces a very large pointed fruit, chiefly preferred for salting.

The propagation of olive-trees belonging to this third division is effected by cleft-grafting on the stem of the *olivastro* at about six inches above the ground. When the scion has taken, earth is heaped

around it, so as to stimulate it to shoot out roots. After three or four years the little tree begins to fruit, and arrived at an age of about 20 to 25 years, the roots which have been thrown out by the graft send up suckers, any which come from those of the parent *olivastro* being of course extirpated. These suckers, when about two years old, will be strong enough to bear separation from the parent-root and to be planted as independent trees. Such young trees fruit in three to five years after planting. When a sucker is thrown out from a large naked root, it may be surrounded by a heap of earth into which it will strike roots, and in due time may be separated as already explained.

The quality of the oil obtained from the cultivated olive, very much depends on the degree of maturity of the fruit. The riper the latter, the better will be the oil it yields.

Near Marseilles the olives are gathered in October and November, while they are still unripe, and the oil is consequently of very inferior quality. This plan of anticipating the crop is adopted on account of the cold *mistral*, which spoils the olives sometimes completely, freezing them and rendering them nearly worthless for oil. To make the trees thicker in foliage, and thus capable of affording a natural shelter to their fruits, the peasants prune the tops every year after the gathering. In this district of Italy comparatively little pruning is needed, the trees on many properties being allowed to grow quite *au naturel*.

About La Mortola and the adjoining district of Latte, as well as on all the lower slopes of the Riviera, the olives are frequently attacked in the month of July by an insect called *moschino*, which lays its eggs in the berry.* The caterpillar developes itself in August, finding its nourishment in the pulp of the fruit. Olives thus infested drop from the trees while not yet fully ripe, that is, in October, November and December. On the mountains at some distance from the sea, the olives are scarcely at all affected by these insects; the fruits in consequence attain their perfect maturity, the crop being gathered between December and May. The oil yielded by such olives is very clear and of superior flavor, and it commands a high price. In proof of this latter fact, I may remark that the value of the oil produced at Latte contrasted with that of the mountain village of San Michele

* It appears not to lay more than one egg in each,—at least I have never found more than a single caterpillar in an olive.

at the head of the valley is ordinarily as three to four, sometimes even as two to three.—*Pharm. Journ., Lond., Sept. 7, 1872.*

OLEIC ACID AND SOME OF ITS COMBINATIONS.

BY ALFRED W. GERRARD,

Dispenser and pharmacist, Guy's Hospital.

The introduction of the oleates of mercury and morphia as remedial agents by Mr. J. Marshall, F.R.S., suggested to me the following as capable of preparation, and as having some therapeutic value:

Mr. Frank Clowes, to whom Mr. Marshall referred the chemical question of his paper ("Lancet," May 25th, 1872), mentions that the scales of peroxide of mercury are with difficulty soluble in oleic acid. I find this is not so if the peroxide is previously well levigated. There is no necessity, therefore, for preparing the fresh oxide for solution in the oleic acid.

The oleic acid used in the following preparations is that made at the stearine candle factories, where it occurs as a secondary product. It is contaminated with a variety of impurities, the removal of which is a tedious process. It has the color of olive oil, but a thinner consistence, and a slight tallowy odor; is soluble in all the ordinary fats and oils, alcohol and ether, but insoluble in glycerin. It forms normal and acid salts; the normal salts of the alkalies potash and soda are the soluble soaps of the pharmacopœia.

Professor Miller, in his "Elements of Chemistry," part 3, page 263-4, says: "Pure oleic acid, at temperatures above 57°, forms a colorless limpid oil without taste or smell; it does not redden litmus even when dissolved in alcohol; at 40° it concretes into a hard crystalline mass composed of fine needles. When solid it undergoes no change in the air, but when liquid it absorbs oxygen, rapidly acquiring a brown color, a rancid odor, and an acid reaction upon litmus, its point of solidification gradually becoming lowered until it falls below 0° Fahrenheit."

By reason of the impurities in commercial oleic acid, I find that it cannot be made to unite with the salts used in the following preparations in equivalent proportions; it will, however, form solutions of 20 per cent., and this I have chosen as a suitable strength:—

Oleate of Lead (20 per cent.)

Prepared by heating together oxide of lead one part, oleic acid four

parts, until dissolved; on cooling, it forms a semi-transparent tenacious mass somewhat thinner than lead plaister. This is not well adapted for direct application, but requires diluting, and as it mixes readily with ordinary fats and oils, I have adopted the following formula for its exhibition:

Ointment of Oleate of Lead.

Take of

Oleate of Lead (20 per cent.)	2 parts.
Oil of Almonds,	1 part.
Prepared Lard,	1 "

Mix with a gentle heat.

On cooling, this forms an elegant ointment resembling that of spermaceti.

Oleate of Zinc (20 per cent.)

Prepared by heating together oxide of zinc one part, oleic acid four parts, until dissolved. During the process of solution some bubbling takes place with disengagement of watery vapor. It is transparent when melted; on cooling it has the appearance of lead plaister, is hard and friable, and requires to be diluted in the same manner as oleate of lead.

Ointment of Oleate of Zinc.

Take of

Oleate of Zinc (20 per cent.),	2 parts.
Oil of Almonds,	1 part.
Prepared Lard,	1 "

Mix with heat.

This forms an ointment of the ordinary consistence.

Whilst experimenting with the above, I thought that if atropia and aconitina were soluble in oleic acid, they might prove useful preparations. I find they are readily so at ordinary temperatures, whilst the sulphate of atropia is soluble on the application of heat.

I have prepared solutions of the above, which nearly correspond to the ointments of the British Pharmacopœia.

Solution of Oleate of Atropia.

Take of

Atropia,	2 grains.
Oleic Acid,	98 grains.

Dissolve.

Solution of Oleate of Aconitina.

Take of

Aconitina,	2 grains.
Oleic Acid,	98 "

On economical grounds there can be no objection to the introduction of the oleates, as large quantities of oleic acid can be obtained at a cheap rate, but the chief consideration is whether they present any advantages as remedial agents beyond those of the same kind already in use. This is a question for the therapist, and must be left to the physician and surgeon to decide.

My thanks are due to Mr. A. Higgins, of the Borough, for the oleic acid used in the above experiments.—*Pharm. Journ. and Trans.*, Aug. 24, 1872.

ON THE PRESENCE OF ALBUMEN IN NEUTRAL FATS, AND A NEW METHOD OF OBTAINING STEARIC AND PALMITIC ACIDS.*

BY W. LANT CARPENTER, B.A., B.Sc., F.C.S.

In the International Exhibition of 1871, there were exhibited several specimens of stearic acid, etc., by Prof. J. C. A. Bock, of Copenhagen. It was stated that they were produced by a new process, which possessed very many advantages over any other known method. The author of this paper, having twice visited Copenhagen to study the process, and having extended its application to neutral fats other than tallow, in England, thought that an account of the scientific aspects of it might not be uninteresting to members of the Section. The inventor, Professor and State Councillor, Bock, of Copenhagen, was by profession a medical man, formerly attached to the Danish Court, and a man of high culture and education, though but little known in England. He had been led up to his invention by patient microscopical and chemical study of the properties of neutral fats, and reflection upon the reasons of the disadvantages of methods hitherto practiced. These disadvantages Mr. Carpenter pointed out at some length in his paper. Hitherto, when fats were decomposed by alkali, a considerable excess of alkali above the theoretical quantity was required, unless the operation were conducted under very great pressure, when

* Abstract of a Paper read before the British Association, Brighton Meeting, Section B.

the risk of explosion was great. When they were decomposed by sulphuric (or any other strong) acid, as was usually the case in England, much of the fat was lost by being charred and burnt, and the remainder was so black that it was necessary to distil it to render it good enough in color for manufacturing purposes. The risk of fire, and of explosion in this operation was considerable, and the expense great. Professor Bock had shown that most neutral fats were made up of minute globules of fat, surrounded by albuminous envelopes, which form 1 to 1.5 per cent. of the weight of the fat, and he considered that the excess of alkali, of pressure, or of heat required to decompose fats, was really used in the destruction and removal of these albuminous envelopes, which also attracted to themselves the coloring matters contained in the fat, or produced therein during its decomposition. The existence of the albumen could be demonstrated in the laboratory by dissolving the fat in ether or benzol, and precipitating the solution by water, or by boiling the fat on a *strong* solution of oxalic acid. In both cases the albuminous envelopes collected at the plane of junction of the two liquids. In Professor Bock's process the albuminous envelopes were broken and partly destroyed by the action, for a limited time, and at a given temperature, of a small quantity of strong sulphuric acid. The neutral fat then poured out from the envelopes in a state ready for decomposition by water in open tanks, an operation which required several hours for its complete performance. Its progress was judged of by microscopical examination of the crystals of the fat, or fatty acid, co-formed by slowly cooling a thin layer upon a glass slip. When it was completed, the glycerin, which was dissolved in the water used for the decomposition, was drawn off, purified, and concentrated for sale. The fatty acids, amounting to 94 per cent. of the original fat, were at this stage of a very brown or blackish color. The next operation was to eliminate the albuminous envelopes, and with them most of the coloring matters. This was done by submitting the fatty acids in open tanks to the action of dilute solutions of certain oxidizing agents, by which the black matters were partly oxidized, and their specific gravity greatly increased, so that when the oxidation had proceeded far enough they readily subsided to the bottom of the tank, leaving the fatty acids comparatively good in color.* After two or three washings with di-

* The oxidizing agents that had been employed were—the three strong mineral acids, sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric, permanganate and bichromate of potash and hypochlorite of lime.

lute acid and water, the fatty acids were cold pressed and hot pressed in the usual way, and the result was a stearic acid higher in melting-point and greater in quantity than could be produced in any other way, and an oleic acid excellently fitted for the manufacture of soap and other purposes. One of the greatest advantages of the process was, that all operations were conducted in open tanks, boiled with steam not exceeding 35 lbs. pressure.

Mr. Carpenter stated that he was at present engaged in applying this process to palm oil and other vegetable fats, and he illustrated his paper with specimens of the various stages of manufacture.—*Chem. News*, Aug. 23, 1872.

CARBOLIC ACID AND CREASOTE.

BY PROFESSOR FLÜCKIGER, BERN.

A good plan for distinguishing these two substances is as follows:—

	Parts.
Take a. Solution of Perchloride of Iron about 1·34 spec. gr.	1
b. Creasote, that is to say, the liquid to be tested for Creasote,	9
c. Alcohol, containing about 85 per cent. of absolute Alcohol,	5
d. Water,	60

Now $a+b$ mixed assume no peculiar color.

$a+b+c$ furnish a green solution.

$a+b+c+d$ form a turbid mixture of a dingy brownish color, drops of creasote being separated.

On the other hand, in the case of carbolic acid, suppose likewise—

a. The above ferric solution, weighing equally	1
β . Carbolic Acid (phenol),	9
γ . Spirit of Wine, as above,	5
δ . Water,	60

Now $a+\beta$ will show a yellowish hue.

$a+\beta+\gamma$ yield a clear brown liquid.

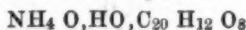
$a+\beta+\gamma+\delta$ display a beautiful permanently blue solution, without separation of carbolic acid, or the few drops sinking down may be redissolved by shaking.

Mr. Th. Morson pointed out* that glycerin is also a good test for the purpose under notice, creasote being not or almost not soluble in that liquid, whereas, as it is well known, carbolic acid readily mixes in all proportions with glycerin. This notice, however, requires, I beg to observe, a slight modification. True creasote, which stands the above test, is perfectly miscible in any proportion with anhydrous or nearly anhydrous glycerin, but it is not so with a somewhat diluted glycerin; a clear solution of creasote and of the same weight of anhydrous glycerin becomes turbid on addition of a little water, whereas a similar solution of carbolic acid may be diluted with water without separation of carbolic acid.†

The blue coloration of carbolic acid, due to perchloride of iron, enables us to discover it when mixed with creasote, but not to prove the presence of creasote in carbolic acid. The latter question, however, seems to me of less practical importance; yet, creasote, if present to some extent, would quickly separate in the above process, $a+b+c+d$, if more water be added. For this purpose the addition of perchloride of iron would be useless.—*Pharm. Journ and Trans.*, June 15, 1872.

Varieties.

Ammonium Compound of Cantharidin.—Dr. E. Masing.—Cantharidin combines with ammonium, but this body is a rather unstable compound, and cannot be obtained in solid state except by evaporation of the solution of cantharidin in ammonia *in vacuo*. The composition of this substance is—



In 100 parts—84.85 of cantharidin, and 7.79 of ammonium. The author mentions that other compounds of these bodies exist, and also speaks of an amido combination of cantharidin which is soluble in chloroform.—*Chem. News, Lond.*, Aug. 23, 1872, from *Pharm. Zeitsch. f. Russland*, No. 1, 1872.

Nicotina an Antidote to Strychnia.—A case of poisoning by strychnia which was successfully treated with nicotina has been published in the "British Medical Journal" by the Rev. Dr. Houghton, F.R.S., of Trinity College, Dublin. When the treatment commenced, the patient, a lad nineteen years of age, was violently convulsed, his pupils were dilated and his arms and legs were rigid.

**PHARM. JOURN.*, May, 1872, p. 921. *Amer. Journ. Pharm.*, July, 1872, 310.

† The glycerin employed by Mr. Morson was the ordinary distilled glycerin of commerce, and he considers the advantage of the test suggested by him to consist in its simplicity and easy application.—*ED. PHARM. JOURN.*

The nicotina was administered in drop doses, in whisky-punch, every half hour. After the second dose the paroxysms were less violent; and when he had taken four doses he was much better, and eventually he recovered. The poisoning was caused by the lad picking up and eating an egg which had had strychnia introduced into it, and been placed in a garden for the purpose of poisoning magpies.—*Pharm. Journ., Lond., Aug. 31, 1872.*

Cotton Seed Oil.—There are at present upwards of twenty mills in this country exclusively operated in the manufacture of oil from cotton seed, and over one hundred and fifty thousand tons of seed are used annually. The oil-cake is sent largely to England, where it is used as food for cattle. The oil goes mostly to Bordeaux, Barcelona, and other olive-growing sections of Europe, from whence, after "doctoring," it comes back as "pure olive oil."—*Chicago Pharmacist, Aug., 1872, from Medical Record.*

Minutes of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy was held at the College Hall, September 30th, 1872; 35 members present. In the absence of the President, Wm. Procter, Jr., Vice President, in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees were read by Wm. C. Bakes, Secretary of the Board, and, on motion, were approved. These minutes inform of the decease of Prof. Edward Parrish, and the election of Prof. William Procter, Jr., to the Chair of Pharmacy, made vacant by the decease of Prof. Parrish.

The following report was read:

To the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy—

The Committee to whom was referred the resolutions of the College of Physicians relative to dispensing external medicines in special bottles and the proper labeling of poisons, etc., respectfully report—

The first resolution is as follows:—

"It is recommended to all druggists to place all external remedies in bottles, not only colored so as to appeal to the eye, but also rough upon one side, so that by the sense of touch no mistake shall be possible even in the dark."

In order to render this plan effective it will be necessary to educate both the public and the dispenser by creating the *habit* of using such bottles of a *particular color and shape* only for external medicines; consequently, the apothecary must *refuse to use* such bottles for internal medicines when brought to him for that purpose, and exchange them for others.

This *concert of action*, in the absence of a stringent law, will have to be based on an approval by dispensers of the *means*, and a willingness to *carry them out*. It will also require a liberal use of explanations to the public by word of mouth and by printed circulars, to encourage the recognition of the plan by the people in *home practice*.

But by the letter of the resolution the apothecary *should not use such bottles* for the most deadly poisons *if* for internal use. Physicians prescribe fluid extracts of Ergot, Belladonna and Veratrum Viride, Donovan's and Fowler's So-

lutions, Wine of Opium, Black Drop, Tinctures of Aconite and Nux Vomica, and solutions of Strychnia and Morphia, in poisonous quantities. These would have to be defended from excessive use, according to the second resolution, solely by the labels. The question then naturally arises, if *these* poisons are safely trusted to the protection of the label, why should not poisons and mixtures for external use be equally safe? But the language of

The *second* resolution requires "that all bottles containing poisons should not only be labelled 'poison,' but should also have another indicating the *most efficient and convenient antidote.*"

The *first* part of this resolution is excellent, coming, as it does, from high medical authority, yet the dispenser will often hesitate to label such internal medicine "Poison," unless specially ordered by the prescribing physician, because patients sometimes take alarm, unless the doctor has explained; and he will also have to consider whether the recommendation of the Philadelphia College of Physicians will be his sufficient guarantee in case of any difficulty arising from such a course.

As regards the second part of the 2d resolution, to put the antidotes on the label, the Committee are of the opinion that it would be difficult to carry out, in an intelligent and effective manner, on the small bottles usually required for poisonous medicines, especially where a mixture of poisons is prescribed. It might do some good to *name* the poisonous ingredient and state the strength of the solution, so that in case of poisoning, the first physician arriving would know the character of the agent with which he has to deal.

Having thus given a general statement of the subject, it is proper that the College should know that a difference of sentiment prevails in the Committee as regards the eligibility of the plan of using specially-shaped and colored bottles for external medicines. *One part* believe that the necessary concert of action between the public and the apothecaries, of all grades, would be nearly impossible, and that the necessity of keeping six or seven sizes of *poison bottles* would entail on the apothecary a great increase of trouble and expense, and a constant liability, on the part of those doing a small business, to run out of them, when other bottles would have to be substituted. They believe a *bold black letter poison label*, with the *skull and cross bones* as a symbol added for those who cannot read, is a far safer guard from the evils of accidental poisoning than a meaningless color and shape to the bottle—meaningless to all but the few instructed in its character.

The *other part* favor the adoption of the plan of the resolution, and think that it may be carried out under the joint action of the Colleges of Physicians and of Pharmacy, and that the glass blower would soon provide for all demands. They also advocate enlisting the editors of daily papers to advocate the scheme, and think the public would hail it as an earnest effort, on the part of druggists, to protect the community.

It is for the *College* to decide what course it will pursue. If this body agrees to the resolution regarding bottles, it will become necessary to call a general meeting of all classes of apothecaries to ascertain how the measure will be received, before taking any positive steps with the public.

As the attendance at such general meetings has usually been small, it may prove a better plan to address a circular of queries to every dispenser of medicines in Philadelphia, and request it promptly returned with his approval or disapproval. If a decided majority affirm the resolution plan of using bottles for poison of special color and shape, then the College can take such measures as will fully acquaint the public with the experiment, and ask their earnest support and encouragement.

WILLIAM PROCTER, JR.,	} Committee.
EDWARD PARRISH,	
JOSEPH P. REMINGTON,	
W. C. BAKES.	

On motion, the report was accepted. After some discussion of the subject evidencing that the College was not prepared to adopt the resolutions of the College of Physicians, the following resolution, offered by Joseph P. Remington, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy does not deem it expedient to adopt the resolutions presented by the College of Physicians,—although they do not desire to prevent any individual member acting on the suggestions of the resolution.

Prof. Maisch read the report of the Committee of the American Pharmaceutical Association, to whom was referred the same subject. The Association deemed it inexpedient to adopt the resolutions of the College of Physicians.

A. B. Taylor stated that the certificates of honorary and corresponding members first made out did not reach their destinations, owing to the failure of the source of conveyance to which he had entrusted them. Wm. C. Bakes reported the action of the Committee appointed to assist the Corresponding Secretary in forwarding the certificates. The certificates were being forwarded by mail, and numerous acknowledgments received.

Prof. Procter, for the Committee on Deceased Members, announced the decease of Prof. Edward Parrish, and stated that the time was so short that a proper biographical notice could not be prepared, and asked that more time be allowed the Committee to draft the notice, which request was granted.

Prof. Bridges announced the course of lectures for 1872-73, the introductory lecture to be given October 2d, by Professor Maisch.

The semi-annual election for Trustees being ordered, Wm. B. Webb and Jos. P. Remington, acting as tellers, reported the election of the following:

Trustees.—W. H. Pile, M.D., Howard B. French, Wm. McIntyre, S. M. McCollin, C. L. Eberle, Wm. J. Jenks, Wm. C. Bakes, A. B. Taylor.

Committee on Deceased Members.—Wm. Procter, Jr., Chas. Bullock, A. B. Taylor.

On motion, then adjourned.

CHAS. BULLOCK, *Secretary*.

Pharmaceutical Colleges and Associations.

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees, held September 20th, the following obituary was adopted, together with the resolution attached thereto:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the decease of Edward Parrish respectfully submit the following

OBITUARY.

The morning papers of September 14th contained a telegram from the Indian Territory to the Secretary of the Interior, announcing the decease of Edward Parrish on the 9th inst., at Fort Sill, Choctaw nation. The electric thrill which sped the sad intelligence over the wires from beyond the Mississippi brought to many hearts in this city of his home grief and distress.

Some were not aware of his absence on so distant a mission; others, who knew of his intended journey, had hoped that the change would refresh and

benefit him after the season of trial through which he had recently passed; a few of his relatives and friends had heard of his sickness at Fort Sill, but to all the message came like a heavy cloud, which for a time obscured all but its own portentous shadow.

To the members of this Board, with whom for years he has been associated in council,—to his brother Professors in the College, now about resuming their courses of lectures,—the announcement comes at a time, and so unexpectedly, that we have found ourselves catching at a ray of hope that the wires had misconstrued their message, and it is only as that faint hope vanishes before the impressive certainty that his form and voice will never again appear in our midst that we begin to realize the loss which we have sustained.

It is not within the premises allotted to your Committee to offer a biographical sketch of the deceased, but a glance at his connection with this College will not be without interest at this time. Edward Parrish was a graduate of the class of 1842; in the following year he was elected a member of the College, and in March, 1854, he was elected as its Secretary, and filled that position faithfully until September, 1864, a period of 10½ years.

The decease of Prof. Robt. P. Thomas having made a vacancy in the chair of *Materia Medica*, he was elected his successor in 1864. In 1866 Prof. Procter resigned the chair of Pharmacy, and was succeeded by Prof. Maisch; after one course of lectures a transfer of chairs was effected (in 1867), by consent of this Board, Prof. Parrish taking the chair of Pharmacy, as more congenial to his previous habits. This position he filled, and was expected to occupy during the session so soon to commence when the electric messenger announced that he would be with us no more!

Prof. Parrish was thoroughly identified with this College, and took a lively interest in its welfare and progress; as a pharmacist he was widely known, and as a writer he had an extended reputation.

The circumstances attending his illness and decease are as yet not sufficiently known to be recorded. He had accepted an appointment by the Government to visit the Indian tribes [placed under the supervision of a Committee of the Society of Friends] located in the Indian Territory, being west of Arkansas and between Kansas and Texas. While in discharge of this duty he fell a victim to the miasmatic fever of that country.

We are not permitted to gather round his mortal remains as an evidence of our respect, but *here*, where he has lived and moved among us, we offer our tribute to his memory, and join with his friends and relatives in sorrow over our mutual loss.

CHAS. BULLOCK, *Ch'n.*,
WILLIAM PROCTER, JR.,
AMBROSE SMITH.

Resolved, That with unfeigned sorrow this Board has learned of the unexpected decease of their late fellow-member, Edward Parrish, Professor of Pharmacy in the School of this College, and, as a testimony of regard, direct the foregoing report of the Committee to be recorded on the minutes of the Board, and a copy to be furnished to the family of the deceased.

At an adjourned meeting, held September 24th, Professor William Procter, Jr., to whom the chair of Pharmacy rendered vacant by the decease of Professor Edward Parrish had been offered, accepted it, and was unanimously re-elected to the position, which in 1846 was created as an experiment, and which owes its success and recognized usefulness mainly to his unremitting industry and untiring exertions while he labored as Professor of Pharmacy during a period of twenty consecutive years, until in 1866 the Board had reluctantly accepted his resignation.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, on hearing of the death of Professor Edward Parrish, called a meeting of the Graduates, and on September 19th adopted the following:

At a meeting of the Alumni Association and graduates of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, held September 17, 1872, the following memorial, expressive of our sad bereavement in the death of Professor Edward Parrish, was directed to be presented to the family of our beloved friend and teacher, towards whom our hearts are drawn in tender sympathy, who have been so suddenly bereft of their life-long companion and friend, and are stricken with a grief too full for utterance and almost overwhelming. We feel that there is not one here in this meeting, of those who have been privileged to sit under his instruction, who can but bear testimony to the great and almost irreparable loss which the profession and general community have sustained, and to the personal sense of a vacancy in the circle of our truest and dearest friends.

To this community, in which he has so long labored, and maintained an untarnished reputation, where indelibly are written the marks of his earnestness, integrity, philanthropy and public spirit, his memory will long be green.

The graduates and students of the College will sorely miss their genial, warm-hearted and fatherly teacher, who was so approachable, and so readily entered into sympathy with them in the difficulties that beset their paths.

The profession over this broad land will acknowledge and deplore his loss, and wherever his professional merit has been recognized, or his name introduced, all must unite in regretting the dispensation that has removed him thus early from the field of his usefulness.

But while we thus express our feeling of a common sorrow, we have the great consolation of all Christian hearts to know that he was calmly prepared for and anticipated the sad event, that he was surrounded by those who, while strangers, ministered tenderly to the necessities of his last illness, and that, soothed and sustained by an unflinching trust, he approached his God "like one that draws the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

MISSISSIPPI STATE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—We have received a pamphlet containing the proceedings at the second annual meeting of this association, held at Holly Springs, Miss., April 5th last. The officers are: Matthew F. Ash, of Jackson, President; James F. Jones, of Macon, Vice-President; John T. Buck, of Jackson, Recording Secretary; Hampden Osborne, of Columbus, Corresponding Secretary; G. M. Scott, of Okalona, Treasurer. The third annual meeting will be held at Vicksburg on the first Wednesday in April, 1873.

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The following circular letter shows that our friends on the Pacific coast are determined not only to offer educational facilities to the young pharmacists, but also that they mean to establish a College upon a sound financial basis:

SAN FRANCISCO, August 20th, 1872.

To the Apothecaries of the Pacific Coast:

At a regular meeting of the California Pharmaceutical Society, held July 10th, 1872, it was resolved, by a unanimous vote of the members, to take measures for the establishment of a College of Pharmacy.

While actual *Counter experience* is indispensable for the proper qualification of the pharmacist in a business point of view, it utterly fails in that portion which alone raises his calling from the level of a trade to the dignity of a pro-

fession. While the older members of our profession have enjoyed the advantages of scientific teaching available in the older portions of the world, the young men who have embraced it on this coast have been obliged to struggle along as best they might, in too many instances, perhaps, meeting with such discouragement as to compel them to cease all attempts at self education, and to be content with the mere *routine* knowledge attained by observation.

To remedy this state of affairs, and to elevate the standard of our profession, is the aim and desire of the Society and the object of the above resolution, in pursuance of which the Society, at the same meeting, appointed Messrs. John Calvert, J. G. Steele, W. T. Wenzell, Wm. Simpson and Wm. E. Mayhew (the Board of Directors of the Society) as a Committee to move in the matter of the establishment of a College of Pharmacy, and authorized them to add to their number if deemed advisable. In accordance with this provision, the Board of Directors invited John A. Bauer, Wm. Geary, J. W. Forbes, Wm. Searby, B. B. Thayer and Ch. S. Biedermann to act with them on the Committee.

On the 7th of August, 1872, the California College of Pharmacy was incorporated, with a capital stock of \$100,000, divided into 1000 shares of \$100 each; its duration to be 50 years, and location in the City and County of San Francisco, and with the following officers and trustees: William T. Wenzell, President; J. Winchell Forbes, Secretary; J. G. Steele, Treasurer; John Calvert, Wm. Simpson and W. E. Mayhew, who are authorized to solicit subscriptions for the capital stock.

It has been determined by the management to grant a scholarship to the holder of each share of the capital stock, which shall cover all fees attendant upon a course of two seasons, except that of graduation, and which shall be available at any time within one year from the date of issue of said share.

The Faculty of the College will be composed of actual pharmacists, and the practical as well as the theoretical portion of the Science of Pharmacy will be thoroughly and experimentally demonstrated; the every-day counter manipulations sharing equal attention with the more abstruse details of the Laboratory, as it is the aim of the management to qualify all who avail themselves of the advantages offered, to cope with any and every emergency that may arise in the transaction of the business of legitimate Pharmacy. The course proposed, to commence on the 1st of October, includes *Materia Medica*, Pharmacy, Chemistry and Botany. In due time a prospectus will be issued. Your co-operation is respectfully solicited.

J. W. FORBES, *Secretary*.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—The ninth annual meeting of this body, which commenced at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, August 13th last, has been a very successful one, quite a number of prominent pharmacists of Great Britain being present and taking part in the discussions. Mr. H. B. Brady, the President, delivered an excellent address, a considerable portion of which was devoted to pharmaceutical education, a subject which claimed much of the attention of the Conference, papers on this theme being read by Prof. Attfield, Mr. Julius Schweitzer and Mr. Barnard S. Proctor, calling forth an animated discussion which in a great measure was devoted to the consideration of the proper measures requisite for securing the thorough education of the young pharmacists residing in smaller places. In regard to it the "Pharmaceutical Journal" says: "But nothing is more remarkable in this discussion than that, with one object in view, scarcely two are agreed as to the best mode of attaining it." As was truly said by one speaker, "*Quot homines tot opiniones.*"

Other papers read at this meeting were: *Pharmaceutical Ethics*, by S. R. Atkins; *Calabrian Manna*, by Daniel Hanbury; *Occurrence of Manganese in Certain Drugs*, by Prof. F. A. Flückiger; *Succus scapi taraxaci*, by H. Barton; *Pill Coatings*, by T. Haffenden; *Tinctures*, by Messrs. Stoddart and Tucker; *Guaiacol*, by J. Williams; *Laboratory Notes*, by Edward Smith; *Kamala*, by T. B. Groves; *New Derivatives from Morphia and Codeia*, by Prof. Wright; *Orris Root*, by Henry Groves; *Tincture of Perchloride of Iron*, by T. Hustwick; *Koegood*, a New Drug from South Africa, by G. A. Keyworth; *Researches on the Constituents of Aloes*, by Dr. Tilden and Mr. Ram-mell; *Notes on Green Extracts*, by Rich. W. Giles; *A Cheap Disinfectant*, by Edward C. C. Stanford.

The town of Bradford, in Yorkshire, was fixed upon as the place of meeting for the year 1873.

Dr. Edward R. Squibb of Brooklyn, Professors G. F. H. Markoe of Boston, and E. S. Wayne of Cincinnati, Dr. Carl Schacht of Berlin, and Professor L. A. Buchner of Munich, were elected honorary members; Prof. Markoe and Wayne were present at the meeting.

The officers for the current year are: President, H. B. Brady; Vice-Presidents, H. Deane, R. Bentley, D. Hanbury, W. W. Stoddart, T. H. Hills, J. Williams, R. Reynolds and F. M. Rimmington; Treasurer, G. F. Schacht; General Secretaries, Prof. Attfield and F. Baden Bengel.

On the evening of the first day, the members, with many guests, assembled in the banqueting room of the Royal Pavilion, where they were entertained at supper by Brighton local members.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—At a meeting of the Council, held September 4th, a letter was received from a lady, asking if ladies were admitted to the lectures of the School of Pharmacy and to the laboratory. The Secretary stated that some years ago Miss (now Dr.) Garrett applied for admission to the lectures, and, the professors seeing no objection, she paid the fees and attended the course. On the matter, however, being brought to the attention of the Council, some members thought such a proceeding was irregular, and a resolution was passed prohibiting the admission of ladies to the lectures in future.

Mr. Hampson said he was very glad such a letter had been received, and gave notice that at the next Council meeting he would bring forward a resolution for rescinding the one referred to by the Secretary.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS.—The meeting of July 3d was opened with some remarks by Mr. Marais, concerning the statement made by Mr. Vuonart* in regard to orange-flower water. The speaker said that in 1863 the commission charged with studying the distilled waters in connection with the revision of the Codex, found, by numerous and carefully performed experiments, that orange flower water distilled with steam presents many advantages over that distilled over the open fire, and that its conservation is as easy as certain.

* See American Journal of Pharmacy, 1872, Sept., 426.

A sample of red cinchona from Bogota, presented by Mr. Stan. Martin, was referred to Mr. Planchon.

Mr. Méhu presented a sample of the acid tartrate of protoxide of iron, which is not altered by exposure to the air or light, and is adapted to the preparation of the double salt of sesquioxide of iron and ammonia.

Mr. Bourgoïn reported his researches on squill, and reviewed the investigations of Vogel, Tilloy and Marais.

Mr. Jungfleisch had obtained racemic acid artificially, in considerable quantity, by heating in a sealed tube ordinary tartaric acid to 175° C.; if 2 equivalents of water are added to the tube, the yield will be as high as 80 per cent.

Mr. Boudet reported on the proceedings of the Academy of Medicine and the proposed investigation into the effects of certain compounds which, like atropia and digitalin, may now be obtained in a purer state than heretofore.

Mr. Stan. Martin spoke about a very simple process for preparing dry albumen. Mr. Boudet said that by an analogous process fresh meat was reduced to a dry powder, which, with water, yields a very nourishing food.

Editorial Department.

THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, of which an account is given in another part of this Journal, has been a very successful one in point of attendance, though not quite as successful in regard to the number of scientific papers presented as has been its immediate predecessor. Excepting the St. Louis meeting, it will, however, favorably compare in this respect with all others and be found somewhat wanting in comparison to a few only. The practice inaugurated, of late years, of travelling in company to the place of meeting, has met with so much favor and is productive of so much interest, that we would recommend our Western friends to take this matter early into consideration, so that the permanent Secretary may, in his official capacity, aid them in securing a suitable reduction of fare. Three years ago, on the way to Chicago, a number of members united, and, passing over the Erie railroad, spent a pleasant day at Niagara Falls. Last year's visit to Pittsburg will long be remembered by those members who, westward bound, stopped at the Iron City and received the attentions of the pharmacists of Allegheny County. On the eastward trip quite a number had united to visit the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky, and on a Sunday morning offered their devotions in the subterraneous cavern of that interesting locality. This year, a party of twenty-two, including ladies, travelled from Harrisburg by way of the Northern Central Railroad to Watkins, stopped there at the beautifully situated Glen Mountain House and inspected the romantic glen, which has only been opened to visitors a few years. The trip over Seneca lake and the kind attention shown at Rochester by Mr. A. S. Lane, form pleasant reminiscences of this trip. Sunday, September 1st, united the majority of the Eastern members and their ladies, to the number of sixty, at Niagara Falls; and though many had visited this wonder of our lake region several times, who would not gladly spend another Sunday in such a company on such a spot? The fatigues inci-

dental to travelling hundreds of miles, vanish under such circumstances, and nothing remains but the pleasure and the profit we derive from the surroundings and the animated company in which we move, until we return to our home, when a day or two of rest will be welcome to us.

Need we say anything of Cleveland, the point to which we were bound? The Association went there a stranger, none of its living members had ever attended a meeting; but true hospitality made every visitor soon feel at home there, and we should not be surprised if the results of this meeting should far surpass the anticipations.

Let it be likewise next year, in Richmond, Va.

EXHIBITION AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—Crude drugs were exhibited by McKesson & Robbins (herbs, seeds, fruits and rhubarb), Lazell, Marsh & Gardiner (rhubarb, ipecac, jalap), Powers & Weightman (cinchona barks), Strong & Armstrong (handsome manna, ammoniac, tragacanth, cinnamon, oils, &c.), J. M. Maisch (Chinese blistering bugs), Benton, Myers & Canfield (crude brimstone from Utah), H. F. Reum (true Russian rhubarb), B. O. & G. C. Wilson (pressed and loose herbs, &c.), Cheney, Myrick, Hobbs, & Co. (American drugs), Dr. E. R. Squibb (Chinese rhubarb), J. Milhau's Sons (natural mineral waters); a large variety of essential oils by various exhibitors. Chemicals were on exhibition from Chas. T. White & Co., Powers & Weightman, J. Milhau's Sons and others. A number of various apparatus and appliances were exhibited by H. C. Gaylord, McKesson & Robbins, Hance Bros. & White, J. R. Mercein, Jer. Quinlan, Dr. W. H. Pile, F. H. Crawley, Whitall, Tatum & Co. Various manufacturers exhibited sugar-coated pills, fluid extracts, elixirs, &c. Different fancy goods were exhibited by Waters & Ricksecker, wines of their own manufacture by Burbank and Gallagher, native wines also by Benton, Myers & Canfield and Good & Roof.

DETECTION OF SULPHURIC ACID IN VINEGAR.—In the April number of this Journal we published a paper on this subject, by Mr. James T. King, which has been criticised by Dr. P. H. Vander Weyde, in the following communication to the *Scientific American* of August 31st:

"The method to detect the sulphuric acid cheat in vinegar, given by the *American Journal of Pharmacy* and republished in your paper on page 120, is the most glaring piece of stupidity which I have had the misfortune to encounter for a long time, and the editors of the *American Journal of Pharmacy* should know better than to publish such nonsense. You are perfectly right in wishing that some of your readers might suggest an easier method for this purpose.

"The addition of the alcohol is not made in order to take up 'the free sulphuric acid to the exclusion of the sulphates,' as the druggist's circular states, but to destroy the acetic acid by changing it into acetic ether; the mixture of acetic acid, alcohol, and sulphuric acid, and afterwards evaporating or distilling the same, is exactly the regular method for making the volatile acetic ether, which will be the vapor or the product of the distillation; in this way the acetic acid is disposed of with the alcohol, and the free sulphuric acid and the sulphates are left; pure vinegar must neither contain the one nor the other, and if adulterated with sulphuric acid, it will mostly contain traces of sulphates also. The addition of a solution of chloride of barium will, in any vinegar,

without previous unnecessary preparation, at once demonstrate their existence by a white heavy precipitate, which is sulphate of barytes or heavy spar; while pure vinegar will not show this precipitate, simply because acetate of baryta is soluble in water, and not insoluble, as the sulphate. The advice of preparatory treatment, therefore, with alcohol, heating, etc., is absolutely unnecessary, and simply a specimen of as gross an ignorance as is the attempt at explanation.

"The sole purpose of my dilating upon this matter is for the amount of chemical instruction it conveys.

"Now the simple test of detecting sulphuric acid in vinegar is this: Make a solution of chloride of barium, pour a little in the suspected vinegar; if it remains clear there is no adulteration with sulphuric acid; if a white cloud shows itself, there is adulteration.

"Even the quantity of the adulteration may be determined in this way; when gradually so much chloride of barium has been added to, say, one pint of vinegar till no more precipitate is formed, and this precipitate is then collected by filtration and dried, every three parts of the precipitate will indicate very nearly one part of sulphuric acid adulteration."

This remarkable criticism has received due attention by communications, to the same paper, of September 14, written by Messrs. Charles L. R. Sayre, of Washington, D. C., Francis Schleicher, of Hoboken, and H. M. Wilder, of Philadelphia. These gentlemen reminded Dr. Vander Weyde that vinegar is apt to contain sulphates, for the removal of which Mr. King proposes alcohol, the clear filtrate containing the sulphuric acid.

The amount of acetic ether formed by the process, as given by Mr. King, can only be minute, since a *gentle heat* merely is directed for the evaporation of the alcohol. The only reaction which might interfere with the detection of sulphuric acid by the process given, is the formation of sulphovinic acid, which cannot be recognized by chloride of barium; but since at ordinary temperature this acid is formed very slowly, and since even at an elevated temperature and with an excess of alcohol it is extremely difficult to combine *all* the sulphuric acid in the manner indicated, we did not feel justified in making any comments on manipulations which have been so correctly described. Notwithstanding the rash strictures above referred to, we regard Mr. King's method as the easiest and *most correct* process yet suggested for the purpose.

APOTHECARIES' APPRENTICES.—The *Medical Press and Circular* relates a judgment wherein it was ruled that an apothecary is bound to provide his apprentices with proper opportunity and leisure for study, books wherewith to learn and personal instruction.

THE LECTURE SEASON has approached, and from the information received there is a fair prospect of larger classes than heretofore in the different Colleges of Pharmacy. Pharmaceutical education has made rapid progress in the United States of late years, not merely by the establishment of new Colleges in the larger cities, but mainly through the evident aim of these institutions to furnish young pharmacists with ample opportunities of acquiring the knowledge and accomplishments requisite for the successful pursuit of pharmacy. In several places of the present number we report on these evidences of progress, which is the more gratifying as it emanates from causes inherent to the natural

development of our profession, and the awakening interest of the public, in many parts of our country, into pharmaceutical affairs demonstrates that the times have long since passed when manual accomplishments alone could be considered sufficient evidence of pharmaceutical skill. The young pharmacist of the present day has no reason to complain of a want of opportunities to acquire the theoretical knowledge so essential nowadays for business success.

FRAUDULENT QUINIA.—On pages 92 and 333 of our last volume, the fraud of substituting sulphate of quinia by muriate of cinchonia was exposed, and it is likely that the publicity given has rendered the perpetrator of the fraud more cautious than at first. We are informed from Chicago that the same article has made its appearance there also, under French disguise, and our readers generally are warned against purchasing quinia without carefully examining it, unless it be obtained from the manufacturers direct. Who has committed that fraud? and who deals in that article?

REVIEWS AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

Cooley's Cyclopædia of Practical Receipts and Collateral Information in the Arts, Manufactures, Professions and Trades, including Medicine, Pharmacy and Domestic Economy; designed as a Comprehensive Supplement to the Pharmacopœia, and General Book of Reference for the Manufacturer, Tradesman, Amateur, and Heads of Families. Fifth edition. Revised and partly re-written by Richard V. Tason, F.C.S., Professor of Chemistry in the Royal Veterinary College, &c. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. 1872. 8vo, 1201 pages, double column. Price, bound in cloth, \$12.

That this work is a useful one may be judged from the editions through which it has passed; that fault may be found with it may be judged from the title and the size of the work. Perhaps its scope is too extended for the size, or its size too small for its scope, as indicated in the title, and the desire not to extend it too much necessitated that some of the less important articles had to be left out in order to make room for the new discoveries. This pruning does not, as far as we have observed, detract from the value of the work as a book of reference; but occasionally a reference has been retained which ought to have been dropped, like others allied to it. Thus we find, on page 8, *Acerate Syn. Aceras*. See *Aceric acid*. The latter, however, is not found either under the heads of Acid, Acer, or Maple.

The references retained are occasionally incorrect. We find, on page 324, *Cheltenham Salts*. See *Salts*. But the heading, *Salts, Cheltenham*, of the older editions has been dropped, and reference ought to have been made directly to *Waters, mineral*, p. 1168.

Articles intended to have been introduced have, perhaps, sometimes been inadvertently omitted, like *Adeps benzoatus*, on page 29, for which merely the synonym *benzoated lard* is given; but the process of benzoinating is neither described under the letter B nor L.

Occasionally we miss processes for the preparation of compounds, as for anhydrous acetic acid (p. 16), and for polygalic acid (p. 1036),—and descriptions

of crude articles or preparations which appear to possess the same importance as others, retained or introduced. Acetal, acetone, bistorta, calabar bean, datiscin, toxicodendron, American wormseed, are examples. The revisor's object was to retain all subjects of practical interest, and expunge those mostly possessing a purely scientific interest.

In examining the articles admitted in the present edition, we have discovered but few errors or oversights. The process given for what the eclectics persist in calling hydrastin, yields muriate of berberina, and the product is free from hydrastia (page 608). On page 1018, the description given of Russian or Turkey rhubarb is apt to mislead to the belief as if this kind was still a commercial commodity, while it has been out of commerce for the last ten years. For colchicia (p. 352) the better process with tannin should have been given.

In some instances we observe omissions of important facts, like the chemical and physiological similarity of daturia and atropia (p. 385), the identity of sanguinarina and chelerythrina (p. 1029).

Considering, however, that this work is intended to be a "cyclopedia of practical receipts and collateral information," we cheerfully recommend it, as containing such a large amount of carefully selected formulas, processes, and other valuable information on innumerable new and old subjects, that every practical man is likely to find in it something, probably much, in which he feels specially interested. We should mention yet that the new notation has been adopted in all chemical formulas.

The garb in which this work appears is creditable to the publishers; the paper is good, and the type, though small, sharp and clear.

Pharmacopœa Helvetica. Editio altera. Scaphusiæ: ex officina Brodtmanniana, 1872.

The first edition of this Pharmacopœia was noticed in the "American Journal of Pharmacy" 1867, p. 207, &c. In the present edition, which has appeared within seven years after the former, the Pharmacopœia has been completely remodeled and cut down, by omitting a large number of complex Galenical preparations, so that the whole work is now printed upon 196 pages.

The language employed is the Latin, to the exclusion even of the synonyms in the vernacular. The simple drugs have been introduced, their derivation is given, but no description is attempted, instead of which merely the most important characters are mentioned by which the drug may be distinguished from other similar ones, or adulterations detected. A few examples will render this clear:

Balsamum Peruvianum. Liqueur spissiusculus, rufus vel e nigro fuscus, quem Myroxylon Pereiræ Klotzsch (M. sonsonatense autor.) leviter adusto cortice exsudat.—In acido acetico crystallisato, alcohole amylico, acetono anhydrido et spiritu alcoholisato solubile sit, minima ex parte in benzolo.

Folia Digitalis. Folia Digitalis purpureæ L. Tempore florescendi e planta sponte crescente colligenda.—Subtus præcipue pilis simplicibus et mollibus non vero stellatis vel ramosis tomentosa aut pubescentia sint.—Ne ultra annum serventur.

Semen Myristicæ (Synon : *Nux moschata*). *Myristicæ fragrantis* Houttuyn (*M. moschatæ* Thunbg.) *nucleus seminis*.

The fixed and volatile oils have received particular attention, their behavior to strong alcohol and bisulphide of carbon is stated, and the reactions with sulphuric and nitric acids and a number of other reagents are well described.

The Galenical preparations are usually made to represent 5, 10 or 20 per ct. of the drugs. Where liquids are employed, the drugs are exhausted by maceration for a week and then expressed; the liquid retained in the press-cake is not made up by the addition of more menstruum.

Acetum Scillæ contains 10 per cent. of alcohol. The tinctures are mostly made with *Spiritus dilutus*, which contains 69 to 70 volumetric per cent. of anhydrous alcohol. *Tinctura aloes, asæ fœtidæ, benzoës, cantharidum, castorei, guaiaci* and *myrrhæ* are made with alcohol sp. gr. 0.834. All the spirits are distilled, with the exception of *Spiritus camphoratus, saponatus* and *sinapis*, the latter being a solution of 1 p. essential oil of mustard in 49 alcohol.

The chemicals are merely described in their physical and chemical characters, and tests for their purity or standard quality have been given. Formulas are introduced only in exceptional cases, where different processes will lead to different results; for instance, for *Bismutum nitricum, Calcium phosphoricum, Ferrum phosphoricum, Ferrum sulfuricum* (precipitated by alcohol), *Plumbum jodatum* (precipitated from boiling solutions), &c.

The tables which follow the text are the same as in the first edition and mentioned on page 207 of our volume for 1867. In addition thereto, a table has been introduced, giving the preparation of the normal solutions of oxalic acid and caustic soda, for alkalimetric and acidimetric purposes; also a table giving the specific gravity, at 15° C., of mixtures of alcohol and water as ascertained by Von Baumhauer. The latter table differs materially from the one published on page 349 of this Journal, for 1860.

The nomenclature adopted is similar to that in use in Germany and Eastern Europe, and is consistently carried out according to modern chemical principles, wherever significant technical terms (*alumen, borax, &c.*) could not be employed; thus we have *Ammonium carbonicum, Calcium phosphoricum, Kalium chloricum, Natrium nitricum, &c.*

The articles are treated of in alphabetical order, and no separation, as in our pharmacopœia, into a list of materia medica and preparations is attempted, whereby the convenience of consulting the work is greatly enhanced.

The work speaks well for the patient labors of the Swiss Pharmaceutical Society, and its appearance throughout is creditable to the publishers.

The Journal of the Gynecological Society of Boston. A Monthly Journal devoted to the advancement of the knowledge of the diseases of women. Edited by Winslow Lewis, M.D., Horatio R. Storer, M.D., George H. Bixley, M.D. Vol. vi. January to July, 1872. Boston: James Campbell, Publisher. 8vo, pp. 480. Price, \$2 50, in cloth.

We have received Volume vi of this valuable Journal, which, like the preceding volumes, may be obtained, handsomely bound in cloth, at the publication price.

Contributions to the fauna of the New York Croton Water. Microscopical Observations during the years 1870-71. By Charles F. Gissler. With several wood-cuts and five plates, containing forty fine engravings on stone. New York: Charles Vegt, Steam Printer, 1872.

An interesting pamphlet of 22 pages, containing the observations made by the author on the animalcules occurring in the New York Croton Water. The illustrations are handsomely executed.

New Treatment of Venereal Diseases and of Ulcerative Syphilitic Affections by Iodoform. Translated from the French of Dr. A. A. Izard, by Howard F. Damon, M.D. Boston: James Campbell, 1872. 12mo, pp. 73. Price, 50 cents.

The essay relates the author's experience of the salutary results obtained by the topical application of iodoform in various forms of the classes of diseases mentioned in the title. Iodoform acts also as a local anæsthetic, but its employment should never dispense with internal treatment.

Systematische Zusammenstellung deutscher Schriften aus dem Gesamtgebiete der Medicin, Pharmacie, Pharmacologie und Pharmacognosie. Herausgegeben von E. Steiger, New York, 1872.

A systematic catalogue of German publications from the departments of medicine, pharmacy, pharmacology and pharmacognosy. 12mo, pp. 82.

This valuable catalogue contains all the important publications in the above branches which have appeared in Germany during the last 15 years, conveniently classified and with the prices attached. The only improvement that we could suggest is to add, in a future edition, the date of the last publication of the different works.

Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania at its Twenty-third Annual Session, held at Franklin, Pa., June, 1872. Volume ix, Part 1. Published by the Society. Philadelphia: Collins, Printer, 1872. 8vo, pp. 263.

Besides the minutes, the volume contains the President's address, an address in obstetrics by W. L. Atlee, M.D., and the reports of the various county medical societies.

Young Folks' Rural. A rural and literary monthly Journal for young people of country and city. Published by H. N. F. Lewis, Chicago. Price, \$1.50 per year; \$1 in clubs of four or more.

An interesting monthly of sixteen pages and 64 columns. The number before us contains numerous articles on various topics, such as appear to be well adapted not only for the amusement, but likewise for the instruction, of the young.

OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR EDWARD PARRISH, of Philadelphia, died at Fort Sill, Indian Territory, on the 9th of September, in the 52d year of his age. We refer to the obituary notices on page 469 of the present number, and shall publish a biographical sketch of the deceased in a future issue.